

# MICHIGAN FARMER.

VOL. VIII.

DETROIT, AUGUST, 1850.

NO. 8, Old Series.

VOL. VIII.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

NO. 2, New Series.

## EXPLANATION.

Some of our friends speak of the commencement of a new volume of the Farmer with the July No., as though we had changed the time of commencing the year from January to July. But we distinctly announced that we made no change of that sort. The regular volume begins with January and ends with December, as heretofore. For the accommodation of new subscribers only, we commenced another volume with the July No., to end with the June No. next year, and with this our old subscribers have nothing to do. The reason of this, as we stated, was that our edition of surplus numbers, large as it was, was entirely exhausted, so unexpectedly great had been the increase of our subscribers, and those who subscribe generally desire to commence with the volume.

## BERRIEN CO. IN THE FIELD.

St. JOSEPH, July 9.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—The Executive Committee of Berrien County Agricultural Society, have instructed me to respectfully request you to deliver an address at their first Annual Fair, to be held on the 19th of September next. It is hoped that it will not be incompatible with your business to attend their first meeting.

Respectfully your ob't serv't,

B. C. HOYT, President.

To WARREN ISHAM, Esq.

REPLY.—It will give us great pleasure to comply with the above request. Numerous and pressing as our engagements are, we have not enough upon our hands to keep us out of mischief. Should the Fair be held at Niles, as we suppose it will, it will doubtless attract large numbers from Cass Co., and also from Indiana. We trust the intelligent and enterprising farmers of that county, will make an effort to get up something handsome.—There is no county in the State, where those who know how to do such things, are more numerous, or have a better spirit, than are to be found in the county of Berrien.—E.

## NOTES BY THE WAY—NO. 68.

BY THE EDITOR.

After dozing and nodding away the entire night, we found ourself at New Buffalo, on lake Michigan. There is nothing worthy of note here, the town being located upon a sand drift, and the buildings few and ordinary. We conclude, however, that it is a land of ducks, as we overheard the remark, that if they were as plenty as they were there, five miles off, the people would be crazy after them, but being so abundant right about them, they did not even take the pains to shoot them.—“That's human natur.” Directly in front of the town, but a few rods distant, and in full view, is a tremendous slough, or quagmire, covered with coarse grass, flags, and wild rice. We suppose this to be the home, “sweet home,” of the ducks and frogs. The remark was also made, that ducks which fed upon wild rice were much more delicious, of far better flavor, than those which were not thus highly favored. And as for the frogs, they appeared perfectly contented and happy.

We had here the pleasure of meeting a subscriber to the Farmer, Henry Chamberlin Esq., a member of the legislature a year ago last winter, and had a very pleasant talk with him about the essentials of good farming. He is located five or six miles east of this place.

From this point we made our way by stage through the thick woods to Laporte, county seat of Laporte Co., Ia., twelve miles distant. For a bout half the way, the land is low, level, and heavily timbered. It would make excellent grazing land, and if well drained, would be adapted to most kinds of grain. The latter half of the road, the land is higher, drier, and on the opening order.

The Prairies—At Laporte, a flourishing village of some twelve hundred inhabitants, we

found ourself set down upon one of the loveliest prairies of northern Indiana, called Door Prairie. And now, reader, come along with us, and we will show you some of these beauty-spots upon the face of creation. Proceeding westward eight or nine miles, we pass from the verge of the beautiful prairie spoken of above, and set foot upon the low grounds of the Kankakee, a tributary of the Illinois, after traversing which for the space of five or six miles, another extensive prairie breaks upon the vision; it is "Morgan Prairie," upon which Valparaiso, a village of considerable importance, the county seat of Porter county, is located. This county is bounded on the north upon the southern extremity of lake Michigan. Pursuing our way a little south-westerly, we leave Morgan Prairie, and soon enter another, whose very name—when we come to mention it—will inspire you with the most ecstatic emotions, and cause the most enchanting images of the sublime and the beautiful to come thronging upon your imagination—it is "Hog Prairie." And still farther westward is "Horse Prairie," which extends to the very western verge of the State of Indiana. And all these, extensive and beautiful as they are, are but insignificant spots, when you have passed them and begin to look out upon the magnificent prairies of Illinois, which now spread themselves out beneath the eye, and stretch themselves away, as far as the eye can reach, toward the setting of the sun.

Returning back to Laporte, and passing eastward, we leave Stillwell's Prairie to the right, and come first to Rolling Prairie—so called from its gently undulating surface—and then to Terracopia, Portage, and Harris' Prairies, the three last being in St. Josephs Co., Ia. Still farther eastward, in Elkhart county, is Perry, Two Mile, Pretty Plain, and Baldwin Prairies; and eastward still, in Lagrange Co., is Mongoquenong, Brush, English, and Pretty Prairies; and in Steuben county, which comes next, and is bounded east upon Ohio, is Willow Prairie. These constitute the northern tier of counties of the State of Indiana, and the prairies east of Laporte, lie in the northern part of their respective counties; some of them reaching up their arms, and others of them their bodies into the State of Michigan. All these prairies, extending across the entire northern portion of the State of Indiana, from Illinois to Ohio, separated by intervals of oak openings, are rich and productive to a high degree, and were covered with most luxuriant

crops of wheat, corn, oats, barley, timothy and clover.

**Harvesting Machines**—Upon all these prairies are harvesting machines, generally "McCormick's reaper." Upon Terracopia alone, which is eight or nine miles long, and four or five miles wide, and very fertile, are twenty of these reapers.—They are drawn by four horses, and attended by seven or eight men. John Reynolds Esq., who, with his brother, owns a farm upon this prairie, and upon the adjoining timbered land, embracing twenty-two hundred acres, said to us that he had harvested forty-five acres in two days, (22½ acres per day,) and that he averaged generally about 15 acres per day. The cost per acre is about 80 cents, and that of harvesting with the cradle, about \$1.18, the difference being about three shillings per acre. And then it is estimated that this machine will pick up the crinkled grain enough cleaner than the cradle, to make a further difference of fifty cents per acre, which, added to the other, will about pay the entire expense of harvesting. The cost of this machine is about \$140. It can only be operated, of course, where the ground is free from stumps and other obstructions.

**Traveling Threshing and Cleaning Machine**.—They have in general use upon this prairie, a traveling concern, which threshes, cleans, and bags the grain, the bundles being pitched upon it as it is driven about the field. They say it operates to their entire satisfaction, and threshes and cleans from a hundred to two hundred bushels per day. We learned that it had been in use upon Prairie Ronde, and abandoned—the straw being so heavy as to clog the machine, and prevent its being used to advantage. But no such complaint was made against it at Terracopia—all seemed to like it. It is drawn by four horses, and attended by four or five men.

The above two machines perform the labor of the Mammoth Harvester of Hiram Moore, in operation upon Prairie Ronde. The expense of operating the two seems to be somewhat more than that of the one, and the only advantage the former have over the latter, is, that by their use harvesting may be commenced earlier in the season.

**A veteran of 1812**—Upon Terracopia prairie, we met with a noble-hearted, whole-souled Kentuckian, by the name of Smith, who was captain of a company in a Kentucky regiment which formed a part of Hull's army at Detroit. He fought 27 battles during the war, mostly with the

Indians in the interior of Michigan. At the time of Hull's surrender, the Kentucky regiment, embracing 1600 men, was stationed at Frenchtown upon the Raisin. They had heard of the treachery of Hull, and awaited with calm defiance an order from him to surrender to the British. In due time appeared a detachment of the British army, under the command of Col. Smith, who rode up and demanded a surrender. They told him they were Kentuckians, and should not surrender to any man's order, but should fight, and whip too. He said he offered to wrestle with his British namesake, and let the result settle the question as to which of the two armies should surrender, and the Col. almost agreed to it, but he backed off the course, and after being pretty thoroughly quizzed, returned to his army about a mile distant, and encamped for the night. But before daylight the Kentuckians were upon them, and they fled in consternation in every direction. Col. Smith mounted his horse and fled through the woods, with an Indian fast hold of his horse's tail, to which he clung with unyielding grasp for two miles, notwithstanding the horse was put to the top of his speed, under whip and spur, nor could the Col. disengage him until his horse leaped a large log, when, forced to let go his hold, he exclaimed "ugh!" and that was the last he saw of him. Col. Smith was afterwards taken prisoner at the battle of the Thames. He settled in Kentucky, where he lives to this day.

In the region of Battle Creek, this regiment numbering, as we said, 1600 men, had an engagement with the Indians, which he represented as terrible enough. An army of three thousand Pottawattamies approached within a mile or two of them, just before the sun went down, and made a halt, apparently for the night. Capt. Smith said that in this emergency he proposed to Col. Pogue, their commander, a stratagem, with a view to out-wit the Indians, knowing that they intended to take them by surprise in the night. Accordingly, the Kentuckians lit up their fires as speedily as possible, did their cooking, took a hasty meal, spread their tents, and arranged everything about the camp in such a manner as to make the impression upon the Indians that they were all asleep, when they retired to a rising ground a little distance off, and waited the approach of the Indians. And sure enough, before morning they approached, and made a most furious attack upon the camp, amid the yells of victory. At this instant, the Kentuckians, who had a full view of their operations, came down upon them with awful carnage. Seven hundred Indians were left dead upon the ground, and the rest fled like deer through the forest.

He spoke of several other battles and skirmishes they had with the Indians in this neighborhood. Battle Creek was not so called then, but derived its name from these bloody scenes. Far, far away was it from the habitations of the white man.

*His agricultural zeal*—Capt. Smith, who has "beaten his sword into a plow-share, and his spear into a pruning-hook," is as true as steel to the great cause of agricultural reform, and enters with enthusiasm into the improvements of the age. He said he had been ridiculed and laughed at for it, but he had lived to see his revilers humbling themselves before him, and adopting the very improvements which had called forth their derision, when they saw how greatly they had given him the advantage over them.

*Feeding grain to sheep*.—He advanced an idea in reference to feeding grain to sheep, which was entirely new to us, and which is worthy of being inquired into. He says that it makes the wool gummy, that wool will be gummy in proportion to the amount of grain fed to them. And for this reason sheep, he said, should never be turned into a stubble field. Roots, he added were the best food for sheep, in addition to hay, as they had no such effect upon the wool, but were healthy and nourishing, and made heavy fleeces. If any grain were given, it should be a very few oats.

*Curing hay*.—Capt. S. is in the habit of putting his hay into the barn or stack green, and curing it with salt. Half a bushel of salt to a ton of hay, he said, would keep it perfectly sweet and nice. But it must not be cut till after the dew is off in the morning, and must be gathered in before it falls in the evening. Thus cured, hay would keep green, fresh and sweet, and was far more nourishing than hay dried in the sun—cattle were exceedingly fond of it, and would eat it all up clean. We suppose that hay thus cured does not differ materially in quality, from hay cured in the cock, as we have often recommended, except, perhaps, that the addition of salt may make it a little more palatable. The same greenness, freshness, sweetness, fragrance, and nourishing properties, are preserved in both cases.

*His boys*.—He said that, in bringing up his boys, he had endeavored to observe a proper medium between too much strictness on the one hand, and too much indulgence on the other, granting them holiday liberties, furnishing them with spending money, &c., and they had always been good and obedient children. Since this California fever has been raging, he said one of his boys, his oldest, we think, who is of age, caught the infection, and nothing would do but he must go to California, and he must be off at once with a company who were going upon capital furnished by others, who were to have a share, one-half, we think, of the avails, and all was hurry and bustle with him, to prepare to go. He took occasion to sit down and reason with him upon the subject—spoke of the privations, hardships,



and dangers to be encountered, &c., and especially brought before his mind the temptation he would be under to become dishonest. Now, said he, suppose you should be successful, and should gather a large amount of gold, would you not think it hard to give up one-half of it to those who furnished you the small amount required to get you there? and would you not thus be under a strong temptation to swerve from your integrity, the loss of which no amount of gold could compensate? The young man was deeply impressed, paused, reflected, and gave up the enterprise.

*His wedded life*—He spoke of his domestic enjoyments, of his wife, of her quiet disposition, and her industrious and frugal habits; and said if he had looked the world over, he could not have been better suited. And now, said he, after having lived together to the very verge of old age, we can say, and say with truth, that we have never had the first wrangle; and added with emphasis, *what do you think of that?* Think of it, thought we, in silence, that is a curious question indeed. It implies—but let that pass. The Capt. went on with his discourse, entering somewhat deeply into the philosophy of wedded life. You see, said he, that we have taken care not to encroach upon each other's rights. That matter was fully understood from the beginning. She was to be sovereign within doors, and I without—her dominion extending no farther than the hen-coop, and mine no farther than the swill-tub; there was no disputed territory between the two to become the theatre of war. And if ever the flow of good feeling seemed to be interrupted in either, he continued, the other retired in silence, taking care not to utter a syllable, nor to return, until the ruffled spirit should have time to compose itself, and settle down again into its accustomed calmness and serenity. Happy family! kings and queens may envy your lot!

He appeared to be well acquainted with Gen. Cass, and said that he always liked "Lewis," and should call and have a chat with him about old times when he came to Detroit, if he should be so lucky as to catch him at home.

But we must bid adieu to Capt. Smith and Indiana, leaving multitudes of things unsaid, which, had we time and space, would come in for their share of attention. We will barely add, that crops of every description, embracing wheat, corn, oats, &c., throughout northern Indiana, have seldom, if ever, been better than they are the present year.

**✎** We notice an article going the rounds, copied from, and credited to, the Dollar Newspaper, with all due formality, which appeared originally in the Michigan Farmer, and to whose credit it should have been set. These Mammoth Weeklies are in the habit of stealing their agricultural column, or half column, and putting it in as original, the better to make their trash go down the intellectual throats of the people.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.—No. 69.

BY THE EDITOR.

The northern tier of counties in Indiana, and the southern tier in western Michigan, are not very unlike to each other, so that, in passing from one to the other, no very marked difference is observed, there being in both the same alternations of prairie, opening, marsh, and timbered lands, except, perhaps, that in the former the prairies are a little more predominant. No more beautiful or productive country need be coveted or desired than the continuous chain of prairies, connected by narrow belts of openings, which extends a distance of sixty or seventy miles, from Valparaiso, in Porter county, through Laporte and St. Josephs counties, Ia., and reaching into Berrien, Cass, and St. Josephs counties, Michigan; and we doubt whether anything superior to it for agricultural purposes can be found upon the American continent, regarding it in all points of view. And by no means the least desirable spot in this delightful tract of country, is the Indian Reserve, now covered with fine farms, which extends eastward and northward, to the St. Josephs river at Niles, and of which we have made mention on a former occasion.

At Niles we met with our friend Rowland Clark, who, though he does not profess to be much of a farmer, being a mason by profession, has, nevertheless, much better ideas of farming than many who make much higher pretensions. He has eighty acres of land, a mile from the village, on which he has made a good beginning. From three acres of ground he took one year fifteen tons of hay, at two crops, being five tons to the acre. It is bottom land. He contemplates commencing a garden for vegetables, shrubbery, &c., for market, there being none in the vicinity of Niles. A horticultural fact or two, gathered here, will be found in another place.

About three quarters of a mile down the river, from Niles, lives another Mechanic, L. H. Merrick, who also understands farming far better than the great mass of those engaged in the cultivation of the soil. And he enters into the spirit of the thing with his whole soul. He had just returned from the county seat (Berrien Springs,) where the court was in session, and we understood him to say that he had that day asked not less than a hundred persons to constitute themselves members of the county Society—how many actually did it, he did not say. And he said, that upon asking another individual, a prominent man in the county, who was also commissioned to procure memberships, how many he had obtained, the reply was, that he had asked one



man to subscribe, and he refused, saying, that if they raised two hundred dollars, the county would have to pay as much more, as the law stands, and that will increase our taxes, and make them intolerable, or words to that effect, "and I thought so, too," he added. Mr. M. replied that he thought that a very short-sighted policy, for in the place of that two hundred dollars, they would doubtless get back a thousand the first year, three thousand the second, and ten thousand the third, by means of the emulation which would be aroused, and the improvements which would thus be introduced. This very thing, he added, has been worth millions to the state of New York. Mr. M. has one of the best four year old colts we have seen anywhere.

**Beardsley's Prairie.**—Twelve miles to the east of Niles, is Beardsley's Prairie, which is three or four miles across, each way, is high, dry, and very pleasant, and is covered with fine crops of wheat, corn, oats, and grass. There are many fine farms upon this prairie, among which those of the Messrs. Bacon, (Cyrus and William,) stand pre-eminent. The former remarked to us, that he drilled his wheat in last fall, and he thought it had been advantageous. The latter observed, that dry seasons had always been the most favorable for wheat, and instanced the years '38 and '45. This is undoubtedly true, so far as the prairies and all heavy, strong land is concerned, the effect being to diminish the growth of straw, and increase the yield of wheat. The severe drouth of the present season has added thousands of bushels to the wheat crop upon such lands.

**Value of land.**—We do not know the value of land here, but there is a farm for sale upon the east side of the prairie, belonging to the Rev. Luther Humphrey, consisting of about one hundred acres, and fifty or sixty improvement upon the prairie, with about two hundred fruit trees in bearing, a good barn, and tolerably comfortable house, located upon a delightful rising ground, a grove of twenty acres back of the house, which has been twenty years in growing, many of the trees being large enough to make four rails at the butt, and a spring of water upon the eastern part of the farm, all of which is offered for two thousand dollars, which would be twenty dollars per acre. A person desirous of purchasing such a farm, could not find a more eligible situation.

**Farm of Hon. Geo. Redfield.**—We have already given some account of the farming operations of Mr. Redfield, and we had quite a curiosity to see his farm. We met him at Niles, on his way back to the Convention, but he assured us of a cordial reception at his place by Dr. Cooper, who has the charge of affairs in his absence, and so we found it, verily.

His farm, which is four miles east of Beardsley's Prairie, is indeed a noble one, consisting of eight hundred and fifty acres, with six hundred

under improvement, located upon a burr oak plain, which is evidence enough of its pleasantness, richness and fertility. There are 175 acres of corn upon the farm, at this time, most of which was coming forward finely.

Mr. Redfield entered fifteen thousand acres of land when he came to this State. Having so much on his hands, together with his public business, he has been necessitated to farm it by proxy, and of course he has not realized those results from his farm which he otherwise would.

**Colony of Blacks.**—Some ten miles to the north of his farm, Mr. Redfield has a colony of blacks, whom he has settled upon a tract of timbered land, consisting of some seventy families. He has also quite a number of white families upon his land in that neighborhood, and Dr. Cooper remarked that the colony of blacks were altogether ahead of them, being far more moral and industrious in their habits, and prompt in their payments for their land, which were made as fast as they became due. They were from the State of Ohio.

**Elkhart, Ia.**—Six miles to the south of Mr. Redfield's, is the village of Elkhart, Indiana, located upon the St. Josephs river, where the Elkhart empties into it. It is a pleasant little village, of a few hundred inhabitants. The great man of the village is a Dr. Beardsley, who came here a few years ago as a physician in moderate circumstances. He is now the proprietor of a flouring mill with four run of stone, and is building a large paper mill, which is already enclosed and painted, and will probably go into operation in the fall. We found him an agreeable and intelligent man.

**Farm of Heman Redfield, Jr.**—This is a young man, nephew of the above, and son of Heman Redfield Esq. of Batavia, N.Y. He recently sold a fine farm in Pavilion, Genesee county, N.Y., and purchased one from his uncle, a mile east of Adamsville, (which place is a mile or two north of his uncle's, an inconsiderable village, with a grist mill, store, &c.) This farm consists of 160 acres of choice burr oak land, with about one hundred under improvement, has an orchard of seven hundred choice bearing fruit trees upon it, viz: five hundred apple trees, and two hundred of the various other kinds of fruit, one of the very best orchards, if not the best, in the county.

Mr. R. designs to exhibit upon this farm to the people of Michigan, a specimen of high culture, such as he has been familiar with in the State of New York, and he has already given an earnest of what he intends to accomplish, in the war he is making upon grubs and other nuisances. He has engaged all the chip and stubble manure which lies rotting about the village, and has agreed to furnish the tavern-keeper with straw to bed all the horses and cattle he may have occasion to keep, upon condition that he is to have the manure. He designs to have a thousand loads hauled upon a single eighteen acre field, between this and next spring, to begin with. With

this and deep plowing, he thinks he can accomplish something, and he will.

*A tale of sorrow.*—The entire appearance of the farm above described, shows that some one had selected it, and expended his means upon it, in years gone by, with a view to make it a sort of earthly paradise, and that bright scenes of earthly enjoyment played upon his vision. He had chosen one of earth's loveliest spots, had adorned it with a variety of fruit trees and shrubbery, such as we have seldom seen anywhere. The house is located upon a delightful rising ground, and before it, and descending from it, is a spacious yard, filled with fruit and ornamental trees and shrubbery, tastefully arranged, with gravel walks, arbors, &c. But alas! everything bears the mark of desolation now, and tells of crushed hopes and broken hearts. And upon inquiry, so we found it to be. An excellent man, who was highly esteemed, and had around him an interesting family, was the joyful possessor of this lovely spot, which he had thus taken pains to adorn, in the hope and prospect of long years of domestic enjoyment. He had a lovely daughter, the hope and joy of his advancing years; but ah! the spoiler came—and O what bitterness, what anguish, what despair, were mingled in his cup of sorrow! The good man was struck down as by a thunderbolt—reason reeled, and hope expired. Crushed, paralyzed, and broken-hearted, he gave himself up to melancholy and inaction; the lovely spot but recently the joy and pride of his heart, lost all its charms, business was neglected, his property melted away, and he finally went off, penniless and forlorn, with his family and hid himself in the wilds of Illinois, where he still lives, a poor, disconsolate, broken-hearted man—himself and family but the merest wreck of what they were.

From Adamsville, we proceeded through a fine, opening country, to Mottville, a small village upon the St. Josephs, fourteen miles from the former, and thence through White Pigeon prairie, some nine miles, to Constantine, leaving the village of White Pigeon one mile to the right.—Pigeon is a handsome prairie, and there are many noble farms upon it, which exhibit the marks of industry and thrift—crops fine.

*Constantine.*—This is a fine, flourishing and pleasant village, of about one thousand inhabitants; location sandy and dry, rising as it recedes from the river. It is distinguished as the residence of the Hon. Joseph R. Williams and Gov. Barry. Belonging to the former is a large flouring mill, with four run of stone, capable of turning out over three hundred barrels of flour per day, and a newly erected saw mill. There is also upon his premises a large establishment for the manufacture of threshing machines, carried on by Mr. Mitchell, besides one or two stores, &c. There are quite a number of stores and shops in the place, and its streets present quite a business aspect. It is upon the highest point on the St. Joseph, where steamboats can have ac-

cess, except at a high stage of water, and is, we think, about one hundred and sixty miles from the mouth of the river. From this place, produce is carried down the river to Niles, in keel boats and arks, (which are towed back again by the steam boats,) at which place it is transferred to the Central Railroad cars, to be taken to Detroit.

### OUR STATE FAIR.

Our State Fair will soon be upon us, and we have gratifying evidence that it will be a good one. Wherever we have been, much interest is manifested in it, and high expectations are entertained. In some instances, however, the idea has been expressed that no comfort could be expected, from the greatness of the crowd and the necessarily limited extent of accommodations, and we have often heard the remark, that multitudes would stay away on that account. To those who are thus minded, we would say, come, one and all, and bring with you all you can prevail upon to come, and our word for it, there will be no lack of accommodations. The people of Ann Arbor will freely throw open their doors, and many thousands of you can find quarters with them, and then there is a thickly populated community of farmers all around Ann Arbor, all of whom will extend to you every accommodation in their power. And if this is not enough, the villages of Ypsilanti and Dexter, are close by, and can accommodate a large number, if necessary.

Fear not then the lack of accommodations; again we say, *come on*, and if necessary to make room for you, we will sleep beneath the open canopy of heaven, and we know of many others who would do the same. Come on then, we reiterate, and let us see such a gathering of the sons and daughters of the peninsular state, as was never seen before, and such a one as befits their high character for intelligence, enterprise and progress. The address before the Society by the Hon. Joseph R. Williams, of Constantine, will itself be worth a journey from the farthest extremity of our State to hear.

We doubt not that the Secretary and those who co-operate with him, will exert themselves to the utmost to get things up in a style of convenience befitting the occasion. Already have the preliminary arrangements been entered upon.

We have been shown by the Secretary the new diploma, and the design for a medal to be awarded as premiums. The diploma is a splendid affair, surpassing we think, in beauty and perfection of design, that of the New York Society. The medal is also well designed.

Remember the time, the 25th, 26th, and 27th of September.

## OUR NOTES BY THE WAY—READ THIS.

We are well aware from our acquaintance with poor, frail human nature, that the way we manage in getting up our "Notes by the Way," is calculated to beget, in many cases, invidious feelings, in those who are passed by, towards their neighbors from whom the facts we communicate, are gleaned. To such we would say, once for all, that we frequently draw important facts from very poor farmers, and who are so, either because they think they have not the means to enter upon a general system of good farming, or because, though very keen to observe isolated facts, they have not the habits of order and system necessary to make them good farmers, and perhaps not the comprehensive calculation. By the aid of the facts however, which they discover, others, who are far less observing than themselves, but who have more system and order, and better calculation, may be made good farmers of. We say this is often the case, and it not unfrequently happens that we are thrown into contact with these persons rather than yourselves by circumstances, and perhaps the next time we come round, we may be thrown into contact with some of the rest of you, and you may find yourselves making as large a figure in the Farmer as your neighbors, before you know it, for we do not suppose that one of them ever dreamed that we were going to inflict such a thing upon him. Never did we give a man to understand that we had any thought of publishing the remarks he dropped in conversation.

But while we have gleaned a great many important facts from very poor farmers, as we have fallen upon them incidentally in our travels, we have also given a great number of facts of the very greatest importance, resulting from the experience of the very best farmers in the State of Michigan. Always when we enter a county do we make inquiries for the best, most systematic, scientific, and successful farmers in the county, and to them do we direct our steps, and from them we have gathered most of the facts published in our "Notes by the Way." But even in these cases, the same invidious feelings are liable to be aroused, for who is there that has not those around him, who think they know more about farming than he does, or those who, from some pique they entertain against him, would be likely not to set a very high estimation upon any remarks of his which might appear in print?

But let us rise above all feelings of this sort, and, with an eye single to the final triumph of the great cause, be willing to press into service any and all facts, come from what source they may, which may be made subsidiary to the great end in view. We have a great work before us, the agricultural renovation of the State, and cannot afford to come down to indulge in petty personalities—can we? No, no—that will ever do—leave those things to children—let us be men—upward and onward be our motto.

Another thing—Although the facts we give are reliable, and from well authenticated sources, we are not responsible for them. We simply relate them as they are related to us, and do not endorse them at all. That in such a multitude of alleged facts as we have given, there should occasionally be one which should prove to be without foundation, it is to be expected. Indeed, it would be wonderful, if it were not so. But we will venture the opinion, that, in the general, they will be found, upon experiment, to be as true and genuine, and as beneficial too, as the general run of facts communicated in the agricultural publications of the day.

We have been induced to make these remarks from the fact, that amid the almost universal expression of satisfaction with which our hasty contributions to the Farmer from abroad, in the shape of "Notes by the Way," have been received, once in awhile we have heard a discordant voice, in reference to some particular fact related, or the remarks of some particular man.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

## SAMPLES OF WOOL.

PLYMOUTH, July 1, '50.

Friend Isham:

I send you two samples of my wool from two bucks of the Bakewell, Lincoln and Leicester Sheep. The shortest is from a buck that weighed 200 lbs. before he commenced his journey, and 190 lbs. after he arrived here, and now weighs 205 lbs. He sheared 12 lbs. 6 oz., and 4 ozs. were shorn from him before he commenced his journey, so that his fleece weighed 12 lbs. 10 ozs. The fleece of the other weighed 12 lbs.—This is to correct some of the statements which have been misunderstood, undoubtedly by some. Also a sample of a Cotswold ewe of my flock.\*

\* The longest of the above samples, (the first named) is 14 inches in length, and has a gloss almost equal to silk.

We have also received samples of fine wool which would be hard to beat, from Messrs. Gale



Stackweather, Ypsilanti, Butterfield of Utica Macomb co., and Hon. Gen. Redfield, of Adamsville, Mass. co.

From the Michigan Farmer.

#### LETTER FROM DR. COMSTOCK.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—I read attentively and with great profit and amusement your invaluable paper, and cannot conceive of an excuse which any reading and thrifty farmer can render for not sustaining it by his subscription.

It may be that some imagine that it is too bookish. Its rich and instructive articles need only to be read to be appreciated as practical common sense productions—the every day experience of our most enlightened and thrifty farmers. I have been particularly struck with its rare and singular usefulness in giving wholesome and practical instruction in what is considered the small matters pertaining to farming, while at the same time, the higher (but no more scientific) departments of rural labor are learnedly discussed. In the June Number of the present Volume Linus Cone gives us a wholesome lecture upon “Stump Ornaments,” and says very properly, that stumps are hateful things, and that no good farmer should despair of extracting them under any circumstances.

Some subjects are so self-evident, that it is a work of supererogation to “argue the topics.” Our friend thinks as we do, that stumps and dandies are nuisances which ought to be abated. He recommends his mode of eradicating stumps, and I have no doubt succeeds pretty well, but the farmers in this quarter, have recently been put in possession of a cheap and powerful machine for pulling grubs and stumps, easily moved about and worked by two men, using but a few feet of chain, and requiring no team at all. With this machine every root is torn out of the ground, and consequently there is no sprouting for the boys to do the spring after. It was invented by George N. Bolles, and is manufactured by Etheridge & Co., of this village, and costs some \$20 or \$25 all told.

A machine which accomplishes so perfectly all it engages to, and at a price so entirely within the reach of every farmer, is certainly a desideratum. The one I allude to is universally approved, and will, ere long, I have no doubt, be deemed as indispensable an implement of good farming as a plow or harrow.

Yours, G. C. COMSTOCK.

Marshall, July 2, 1850.

#### LETTER FROM GENERAL ORR.

Being informed, that General Joseph Orr, of Laporte, Indiana, was one of the most extensive, scientific, and successful farmers in all that region, we mailed to him the July number of the Michigan Farmer, and in return, have received from him the following gratifying letter. We hope the General will allow us to set him down as one of our regular correspondents.

LAPORTE, July 24th, 1850.

Warren Isham, Esq.:

SIR—I have received through the Post office at this place (from an unknown hand) the July No. of the “Michigan Farmer,” and am so well pleased with its contents that I have concluded to make up a club of five on my own hook. Should the “Farmer” take as well with my neighbors as it has with me, we will add the other 7 and call it a club of 12. In the other cases, send the July No. of the “new volume.” Good farmers hereabouts sow winter wheat between the 1st and 20th of September. They call the best average time about the 10th. Wheat sown before the September equinox, seldom fails to get a good start, whereas wheat sown after that time, sometimes fails for the want of moisture and heat to bring it forward, and give it strength to stand the winter, or with the rust before it matures. Early sown wheat—say the last of August or the 1st of September, is more apt to be injured by the fly than later sown, but when it escapes that insect, we seldom fail of a good crop.

Yours,

JOSEPH ORR.

From the Michigan Farmer.

#### CROPS IN GENESEE COUNTY.

GENESEE, July 18, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—I enclose herewith two dollars which you may place to the credit of Wm. Chamberlain and Sherman Stanley, \$1 each for the “M. F.”

We are now in the midst of our haying and harvest. Wheat in this vicinity is coming in good; I think better than for several years past. Grass is also good, notwithstanding the fears which were entertained a few weeks ago in consequence of the drought. The weather for the last few weeks has been most favorable for all crops, and has brought them on beyond all expectation. It has now come off cool, clear and fine, being just what is wanted to secure the harvest, and should it continue favorable another week, we shall be able to secure our wheat in fine order, and probably be enabled to continue to take and pay for the “Michigan Farmer” and other useful materials for carrying on our agricultural business.

Yours, C. N. BEECHER



COTTAGE.

For the Michigan Farmer.

**LIGHT BREAKING—LETTER FROM A  
MILLER AND FARMER—DEEP PLOW-  
ING—GOOD.**

ROLLIN, 7th mo., 8th, 1850.

Friend Isham:

Enclosed please find one dollar, for the Michigan Farmer, commencing with this month, (No. 1, new series.) I have been almost discouraged to see that our average yields of wheat and corn were not more than one-third what they ought to be; but the first No. of the present volume, (7th mo.,) having fallen into my hands, and much of its contents being in accordance with my views, I thought now was the time to commence, as there was light breaking forth; and as coals are dead while scattered, but when gathered into a heap create a blaze, so may we, although seemingly useless while alone.

I have long and much desired that Michigan may shine with equal brightness with her sister States that are older, and I believe it is not our soil or climate that puts us behind the best in agriculture. Our flour and wheat might, and should, go equal at least with pure Genesee. I feel a double interest, or I should not have infringed thus much on thy patience.

I am a miller and a farmer, and have made up my mind that I will no more work at the halves. I have long been satisfied that, as a State, if we would expend our labor on one-third the number of acres that we now go over, we should get as many bushels of wheat and corn as we now do, and of a superior quality. I have been in this county (Lenawee) 20 years, and have been a

close observer of all farming operations, though I have not practiced according to my best judgment—we are imitative creatures, very apt to follow on much like our neighbors.

But there must be a breaking out of the ranks, and advancing, or we all grope in the dark together. Last spring I began to break out a little; have obtained some fine sheep, two of A. L. Bingham, at our State fair, and some 40 more, of the Spanish breed. I had some land that had been what we call *hard run*, which I wished to get in clover and timothy—began to plow the latter part of 5th mo., (May,) with double team, from eight to ten inches deep; harrowed once before cross-plowing; commenced cross-plowing the first day of 8th mo., (August); harrowed again before sowing, and twice after, which was the tenth of the 9th mo., (Sept.) I fed it with sheep in the fall very close to give a better chance for grass seed in the spring—a practice which I very much disapprove, for I would rather sow my grass with, or at the same time of, the wheat, that it might at least be once harrowed; in this way we should about never lose our grass seed.

The result of the above plowing, &c., was so satisfactory that I could not but mention it,—the land being the most worn of any I had; the wheat, all through the dry weather, never stopped growing—was noticed by every one that passed by, and from the present appearance, will yield nearly or quite 50 bushels to the acre. I do not mention this as being a great crop, but it is very good for its chance.

I plant but little corn—think we had better manage to get from 80 to 125 bushels, according to the season. This year I plowed deep, after manuring well; planted four feet by eighteen inches, left three stalks in a hill; expect to get (the

remainder of the season favorable,) over one hundred bushels to the acre.

As regards the time of sowing wheat, I approve of getting all as near ready as we can previous to the first of 9th mo.; then, if we are quite sure we can get done before the fifteenth, we may wait a little longer; if not, commence the first, as I have never failed of a good crop but once in 20 years, when I sowed between the first and fifteenth of 9th mo., and that was on new timbered land, and was injured with frost when the heads were about setting—I forgot the year, but remember much of the wheat was killed in Wayne county, the same season;—but wheat sown after the fifteenth will not be a first rate crop more than once in three. It is more liable to rust; it has less time to root; is more likely to heave out by frost; has to ripen in the hottest weather; is more likely to be a small berry, even if it is plump.

I observe thou art moving about through the State some; perhaps thee may find it in thy way to pass through Lenawee, in course of time.

I remain,

Thy friend, &c.

WM. BEAL.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

#### WHEAT-GROWING...No. IV.

Mr. Editor:

In the preceding articles I have endeavored to show the beneficial effects of deep plowing and thorough surface draining. But there yet remains one of the prominent causes of the failure of the wheat crop in this state, to be considered, and that is, early sowing.

The principal objection to early sowing is, that the Hessian fly, or insect as it is generally called, has some seasons totally destroyed, or materially injured, all early sown wheat. Now, close observation and repeated experiments have convinced me that, on a good wheat soil, where it has been plowed deep and drained thoroughly, or, in other words, properly put in, unless the insect injures the growth of the plant in the fall, it can do no injury to the crop afterwards. Let it be understood, that wheat must be sown sufficiently early to prevent its being attacked in the spring, which, in ordinary seasons, would be before the tenth of October. In support of this view of the subject, I will give but two of the numerous instances that might be given, of the beneficial effects of the method here recommended: In the fall of '45, I put in two fields, adjoining each other, one plowed deep, the other shallow; the soil of both fields was the same, and the seed of the same variety, and both were sown nearly at the same time—about the 16th of September. The

result was, the wheat on the shallow plowed field was almost entirely destroyed by the insect; it was hardly worth cutting; while that on the deep plowed field was very heavy; the insect had done it no injury. The exact product of either field I do not know, as it was not threshed separately. Here, then, it was deep plowing alone saved the crop.

Again, in '47 the insect had done great injury to the crop; the fall continued dry and warm till about the 20th of September. My neighbors all finished seeding before I commenced, although my ground had been ready for some time. I began to sow, I think, the 22d of September, and finished about the first of October. The result was, my neighbors' wheat was totally destroyed, or greatly injured, by the insect, while mine was not injured at all, and produced 690 bushels from 24 acres.

My rule has been, when insects are prevalent, to not sow during warm, dry weather—to wait until the weather is cool, which is generally from the 12th to the 20th of September.

The objections urged against sowing thus late, will be that, first, there is danger of fall rains' rendering tenacious soils too wet; and, second, that the crop will ripen late, and rust. The first objection is removed by my method of plowing and keeping the drains open during the fall before sowing; and the second, by plowing deep and thorough cultivation. Try it, brother farmers, and see if I am right.

LINUS CONE.

#### INFORMATION ASKED—CROPS, &c.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

Mr. Isham:

Sir: I wish to make an inquiry through the Farmer, in regard to sheep management. In this section of our State, very few fields are well watered, and many farmers are in the habit of keeping their sheep on fallows, or short pastures, without water, during the hot dry season. It has ever appeared to me that this was bad management; will some one enlighten me on the subject?

A word about our crops: wheat looks promising, and, should it escape the rust, I think will come in fine. Some of our farmers who put in wheat with once plowing, and that shallow, will get perhaps five or eight bushels per acre; while those who done it as it should be done, and drilled it in, will get from 20 to 30 bushels per acre. I think there is no doubt that drilling in wheat is the true way. Most corn is quite backward, owing to surface planting, and the extreme dry weather; in fact, all our spring grain must be a slim crop. Yesterday we had quite a heavy rain, which was very much needed, and makes every thing look refreshed.

Yours, &c.

JAS. B. COOPER.

Adamsville, June 28.



## Educational Department.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### EVILS INCIDENT TO OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

(Concluded.)

We will now examine how far practice agrees with precept. It would undoubtedly be unfair to expect more than an approximation to the true cash value, though I am credibly informed, that in the city of Boston the persons on whom devolves the duty of assessors, have, from long and conscientious practice, attained perfection so nearly, that the assessed value of real estate is unhesitatingly taken by buyer and seller. It is a fact known perhaps by nine-tenths of the inhabitants of Wayne county, that the assessed value is far below the real value. And from the best of evidence, I know that the assessment of 1849, in a number of instances, did not reach near one-fifth of the amount actually realized from the sale of the property. I am bound in justice to the assessors of the township in which the property is situated, to state that they did not assess the township below its *relative* value, but the contrary, as five per cent of their valuation was deducted by the Board of Supervisors, when equalizing the assessments of the county of Wayne. How stands the case with respect to other counties? I am told by a gentleman who owns land in the counties of Wayne and Oakland, lying side by side along the base line, that the assessments in Wayne are considerably higher than in Oakland, and he censured, in strong terms, the assessors of the former county for their high assessments, as in consequence, that county pays more than its relative proportion of the state tax every year. Now assuming that the aggregate estimated value of the real estate of this county is not more than one-fourth of its real value, and I firmly believe that there is no exaggeration in the assumption, it will follow that the Primary Schools are deprived of three-fourths of the one mill tax to which they are unquestionably entitled. And what is the probable amount thus annually lost to them? I will select one township, and take the amount of its mill tax, viz, \$113: which multiplied by four produces \$452, from which deduct \$25 for library, and there remains \$427 instead of \$88, the amount actually received.

We will carry on our arithmetic only one step more. If the aggregate amount of the mill tax in the aforesaid township be taken as one term, and \$160 amount of apportionment from the Primary Schools Fund as a second term, and, in round numbers, \$39,000 apportioned in 1849 by

the Superintendent of Public Instruction, as the third term: then as

\$160 : \$113 :: \$39,000 : \$27,544 75, aggregate mill tax for the whole state in 1849. Raise the assessments approximately to cash value or 75 per cent, and the result is \$119,175, which we claim for primary schools in the name of law, justice, and sound policy. But it may be asked, would not this place a surplus of funds in some of the larger districts? The largest district in the township selected as the basis for our "calculations," containing 128 scholars, the apportionment for whom from the primary school fund and the increased mill tax would amount to \$144 58, enough at \$12 per month to hire a male teacher throughout the year; and now that our female teachers are generally exhibiting an all but invincible repugnance to the "rough and tumble" process of "boarding 'round," for such districts male teachers are the most eligible. On the other hand, for the smaller districts, or those where *non-resident lands abound, where human beings are scarce*, as in district No. 9, containing 29 scholars, the apportionment would, from the two sources, be \$27 94, or four months for a female teacher. And here for the present we will conclude.

C. WARD.

Greenfield, April 4th, 1850.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Editor of the Farmer:

I have before me two communications in the Farmer, on the subject of School Libraries, containing views differing from those expressed in an article of mine which appeared in the May No.

A free and candid expression of different views on important subjects connected with human progress, is the surest avenue to truth, and to the discovery of the true relation between man and external things.

It is gratifying to know that a few minds, at least, are turned to the consideration of a subject so vastly profound, and so sensitively affecting the character of following generations of men and women. We have but few engines of improvement more powerful than a well selected library. It stamps a character of intelligence upon society, and gives independence of thought and action to its members.

The statement which I made in regard to the duties of the Mass. Board of Education, having been questioned, I immediately addressed a note of inquiry to Hon. Horace Mann, and have just received his reply, which is as follows:

"The Massachusetts school library was published under the auspices of the Board of Education. The understanding was, that each book should be examined and approved by each member of the board. As the board was composed of gentlemen belonging to different religious de-

nominations, and different political parties, it was thought that this method would disarm prejudice, and secure to each parent an immunity from the incalculable of what he might deem erroneous views, either in theology or politics.

"But the towns and districts were not obliged to buy these works for their libraries. All had their option, either to take the series prepared by the board, or select other books."

It is unnecessary for me to comment upon this plain statement. Your correspondent will see that his "native state" has been "guilty" of the monstrous "dereliction" that he speaks of. Mr. Mann does not state whether this selection is generally obtained for the libraries; but from the known character of the Board for sound wisdom and judgment, thorough education, and high literary and moral standing, and also from my own practical knowledge of the collection, I should readily infer that the towns, universally would procure the series.

As your correspondents agree, I will briefly reply to their objections, without specific allusion to either:

First—Our inspectors are usually as intelligent and well-informed as any individuals in the townships; an "advisory committee," then, would avail but little in deciding what books should be procured, while it would increase expense.

Second—The duty of appointing a "Board of Education," would probably devolve upon the Executive and Senate. They should serve a number of years. There would be little danger of their becoming corrupt, or transforming into a monopoly. The increase of labor, then, which this would impose upon one branch of the legislature, would not be very grievous.

Third—It is thought that the "course recommended" would have a tendency to bring our libraries into disrepute. How such an effect could follow, I am at a loss to discover. Indeed, the more I reflect upon the subject, the better am I satisfied that the very reverse is the truth. A library selected by men of profound literary attainments, and strict moral integrity, would commend itself to all. Even when the present law respecting libraries went into practical operation, we were calculating their repute according to the intellectual and moral character of our inspectors. Furthermore, a selection made and published under the auspices of a Board, could be had at cost; whereas we now pay large advances. One great disadvantage under which the interior and western townships suffer, is the want of an extensive assortment to make a choice from. Our inland bookstores are on a small scale.

Fourth—So far as there can be any "dictating" in the matter, I would prefer that a well qualified Board of Education should do it, rather than the Board of School Inspectors, or but one of them, as is now generally the case.

Notwithstanding my efforts to be brief Mr. Editor, I have prolonged this article farther than

I designed, considering the smallness of the space you must necessarily devote to this department.

I hope others will give their views, and, with friend Hall, I believe good will result.

CHAS. BETTS.

Burr Oak, 1850.

For the Michigan Farmer.

### EXTRACT

*(Of an argument delivered in a debate on Common Schools, in Wayne, Cass Co., Michigan.)*

BY JOHN S. GAGE.

After speaking of the importance of education, identified as it is, with the perpetuity of our free institutions, and illustrating the subject by a reference to the history of those nations who have proved themselves incapable of self-government, for want of education among the masses, Mr. G. proceeds to speak of the difficulties which have embarrassed the workings of the free school system, and proposes the following plan which he thinks possesses all the advantages of that system, without its disadvantages. He says:

"But I think that there might be a plan adopted that would be as beneficial as the free school system, and perhaps more so, and would meet with less opposition. If we could adopt a plan by which there would be a premium paid to those who attend, and at the same time operate as a fine on those who do not, and yet be productive of no injustice, the result would be decidedly beneficial.

I think this could be accomplished by passing a law that every child who would attend school sixty days in a quarter, or at that rate during the school term, should have its tuition free. That would leave twelve days for lost time, which would be amply sufficient, if they were well. And I am not sure but it would be as well to add, that time lost by sickness should be counted as days of attendance. Where doubts existed, parents or guardians to be sworn; and that those who did not attend that number of days should pay the same as now, (or pay their bill without the help of public money,) as a wise Legislature might think fit. And I would rather recommend that the present sum paid for licence to retail ardent spirits should be doubled, and the money be applied towards such free tuition: the remainder to be raised on the taxable property of the township. The treasury at all times to have a surplus on hand, so that they might pay when called on.

The advantages of the above plan are that the tax-payers would not be obliged to pay unless the children attended regularly. The payment of those now exonerated would be in proportion to property possessed, and not as now in proportion

to the children. All those who under the present system are inclined to withdraw their children from school whenever there appeared to be a prospect of the bill coming high, would be more desirous to send in order to get relieved from paying for what they had sent. Those who have too much pride to be exonerated, and yet are too poor to pay their bill, would, under this plan, send regularly, and it would be no disgrace, for rich men would do the same to save the dimes. Those who are too penurious to send at all, under the present plan, finding that they would have to pay any way, would send to get the worth of their money. Each district would be anxious to have a school and regular attendance to get back the money that was raised in it, and if possible, to obtain a little from their neighbor districts. And thus it would create a strife between the districts. The effect on employers would be the same as on the districts, each striving to get a little from his neighbor. The schools would, in all probability, be better attended throughout the term for the sake of making up the proper number of days. And those townships where the land is mostly owned by speculators, and consequently thinly settled, would be able to support schools and educate their children."

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

#### LETTER FROM A YOUNG MAN.

WHITE LAKE, July 16.

Young men of Michigan—permit me one of your number to break silence on the subject of Agricultural Education. As it is a subject in which we are all interested, it may not be out of place for me to devote to it a few lines. Let us consider the duties that are devolving upon us as moral and intellectual beings; as the future rulers of our country, some of us are destined to act conspicuous parts in its history.

Let us then improve every opportunity to cultivate our minds, and store them with useful knowledge. In the work-shop we may gain wisdom, and important lessons may be learned while holding the plow. And let us get beneficial knowledge, knowledge which shall be of some practical use. Seek not the fame of the warrior, for it is stained with blood. Seek not the honor of the statesman, who obtains his office by willful deception and base intrigue. But strive to excel in moral and intellectual worth; follow out firmly your convictions of duty, and always be guided by a sense of right. Try to take, if but one mite, from the aggregate of human misery, and add but the little in your power to the sum total of happiness, and you have obtained an object worth living for.

Our fathers are anxiously watching our onward steps, as we are about to take upon us the responsibility which they have devolved upon us. Our privileges are better than theirs ever were, and let us improve them. The destinies of this nation, the welfare of unborn millions depend upon your decision and action.

A.

## Ladies' Department.

*For the Michigan Farmer.*

### "HOME, SWEET HOME."

Friend Isham:

It is not long since I became a reader of your valuable paper, but from what little acquaintance I have had, I am much pleased with it, especially the Ladies Department. I anxiously wait its arrival, and first of all turn to the Ladies Department, with which I am much pleased, and should be more so, if it had a little more of the poetic spice, for I am a great lover of it. I send you the following; if it is worthy of a place in your columns, insert it—if not, throw it where you throw all other useless papers.

#### HOW TO MAKE HOME SWEET,

*Or, the benefit of always wearing a smile.*

That happiness is the chief object of all intelligent beings is self-evident. And seeing it is the object of all, why are not all happy? Is it impossible for us to attain to it? Does it elude our grasp while we in vain pursue it, or do we seek it in the wrong way? I judge from what little I have seen of the world, that it is attainable by all who seek it in a proper way. It is evident to me, that from miscalculation, or want of good judgment, we frequently become the authors of our own misery.

What makes home happy, or "Sweet Home?" Where does the secret lie, and how shall we find out? Undoubtedly many understand it, if we may judge from appearances. For whenever we enter their houses, happiness seems to be an inmate there. Although I may not be in possession of the secret, I will venture to guess what it is not; and before I get through perhaps I will guess what it is.

We often see a happy pair united in the matrimonial bands, leaving their parental homes for a home of their own—with enough of the good things of this world to make them comfortable—and with fair prospects of happiness. They now become masters of their own habitation, and for a while everything goes on pleasantly. By and by some accident happens, perhaps through carelessness or want of good judgment, or some such thing. Perhaps a very choice or valuable article is broken by one of them. The other feeling so grieved at the loss, exclaims under the impulse of the moment, "you careless creature, you will break every thing in the house. I wish you had broke your neck;" but not meaning any such thing, nor realizing what he said. The other one having been taught that retaliation is wrong, makes no reply, but turns away with a sober countenance. But the words pierce the heart like a



dagger. The grieved one lays these words up in the memory often thinking to herself, "my companion is angry with me when I am not to blame—it was an accident—it is too bad, I cannot bear it." But after a while thinking it not best to feel so about it, wipes off the tears and says to herself, "I will think no more about it," and goes to her work. By and by she sees him returning to the house, and it brings afresh to her mind the grievous words, which cause the tears to rush again to her eyes. She straightens her face and endeavors to suppress the tears that are ready to flow, (for she is too proud to let him see her weep about it.) He enters the house as usual, but she dare not trust herself to speak when he speaks to her, for fear the tears will flow again, and so straightens her face again to keep them suppressed. He not being aware how sensitive she is, wrongly interprets it, and thinks because she does not speak, she is angry. He calls to mind the little accident that had lately occurred, and thinks she is certainly angry. And anger being sometimes contagious, he flies into a passion and says some other harsh things, which grieve her still more. So you see they are both unhappy from a want of proper consideration on the first cause. If he had said pleasantly when the accident happened, "I am very sorry indeed you have had the misfortune to break the article, for I valued it highly—but never mind, accidents will happen, only try and be a little more careful." If he had said so, it would have saved all those bad feelings and bitter surmises.

If you wish to make home pleasant, always wear a smile, or at least a cheerful countenance. What husband, when he returns from his labor, wearied and fatigued, to his home, feels that it is a "sweet home," if, on entering his house, he finds his better half with a sour face and a scolding tongue? Many a wife has been the sole cause of her husband's becoming a miserable vagabond. The aim of all is happiness, and if they cannot find it at home, they will seek it elsewhere; perhaps at the tavern, or gambling table, or some other place, taking step after step, till they ruin themselves, and leave their families wretched.

Well, now if you wish to make your husband, your home, your family, and every one around you happy, always wear a smile. When he returns from the toils of the day, meet him with a pleasant countenance, and be ready to engage in some pleasant conversation, and he will soon forget that he was weary, and the hours will pass swiftly and sweetly away.

Then hand in hand through life you'll go,  
 Its thorny paths with flowers strow;  
 Each other's interest you should seek—  
 'Twill make your happiness complete.

SUSAN LESLIE.

P. S. Mr. Isham, did you mean to include the ladies when you gave the privilege of sending all communications free of postage? \* S. L.

\* Certainly, the ladies more especially. We hope to hear from S. L., "every now and then."—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

## RESPONSE FROM MARY.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—If you could only see the improvement in our neighborhood since your paper has come among us, I am sure it would compensate you for all your labor in publishing it. We exhibit the effects of your excellent periodical both in doors and out. We all begin to feel that agriculture is truly a dignified and pleasant employment.

Should you deem them worthy of a corner in your paper, I should like to express my thanks to "Flora" for her advice contained in the June No. I acted upon her instructions, trimmed and tied up the old rose-bush, cut the pink roots into nice, round bunches, and laid out some little beds before the door, where I have had some of the prettiest flowers I ever saw, and I do not know why this should be, because I have seen the same flowers before, unless it is that I have 'taken care' of them. I never was so happy in my life. I find that to combine a love of the useful with the beautiful, makes truly a pleasant lot. I can assure my 'sisterhood,' every one—all—those in as remote corners as myself, that if they will be induced to try the experiment, they will find a pleasure in their existence they never knew before. I have been led to lift my eye from my little garden, to the beautiful works of God, the trees and the starry firmament, and have thought there must be many very, very beautiful things on the earth, and in the heavens. How I wish I could see more. It seems as if a new world has opened to me.

It strikes me with perfect wonder to watch, first the little green spear, then the bud, then as if by some magic influence, a beautiful, brilliant flower is nodding to the wind. O it calls up from the inmost soul that deep adoration and love, which nought but the attributes of a God can inspire in the heart.

Since noticing the beautiful order and regularity which characterize the natural world, I have been led to apply the instruction in my own employments, and I find now that my *duties* are my *pleasures*. I can testify to the truth of the remark, that "the more *attention* there is bestowed upon an object, the more the heart is interested in it."\*

I think my flowers have shed their influence over the whole household. Father seems to like to sit down in the door when he comes in to rest at noon, and though he says nothing, I think he has a very pleasant look, and I have heard brothers, who, at first, thought I was spending my time very foolishly, say, more than once, as they have sat on the grass at evening, "it does look nice doesn't it?"

I never noticed that there were so many different birds before, and that they were such beautiful singers. I would not part with the birds and the flowers now, for anything in the world. I should be delighted to go to Ashgrove, and I presume a great many others would, and receive the proffered boquette, and look at "Kate's" beautiful garden. How very, very beautiful it must be! I hope that we all shall find a dignity and pleasure in our cottage houses, and in our quiet employments, which shall be a substantial and an increasing blessing to those for whom it is our right—as well as our pleasure to live.

MARY.

From the Woods.

\* We are always interested in an object in proportion to the capital we invest in it, the stock we take in it, whether the investment consists in the payment of money, or the bestowment of labor and care. "That's human nature." We hope to hear from "Mary" again and again.—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

#### PRESERVING BUTTER, &c.

HADLEY, July 8, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—I see in the July No. of the Farmer a communication on the subject of preserving Butter and making Tomato sauce. I, too have a mode of making butter so that it will keep good as long as that made in any other way. In the first place, particular care should be taken to have your milkpans and everything in which the milk or cream is put, or kept, perfectly *clean* and *sweet*; the churning should be done before your cream becomes too sour, and at a proper temperature, and when the butter is drawn from the churn, it should be entirely separated from the milk, by working it the third time, after standing, then put it down in tubs or firkins, and set it in a cool place, having it properly salted. In this way, I have made good butter that kept perfectly sweet one year, and it did not need *skimming* or *straining*. And I think that after butter is once scalded the flavor is gone.

In regard to the Tomato sauce, I think vinegar and brass would be likely to combine and make an oxide, commonly called verdigris, and affect the sauce, making it also of rather a dark color, and perhaps not quite as healthy as it should be. A vessel of some other metal would therefore be preferable.

MARY ANN.

For the Michigan Farmer.

#### TO FARMERS' DAUGHTERS.

SUPERIOR, June 19th, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

The subject of education, a proper education for ladies, is still uppermost in our mind. Many persons seem to think that to educate is to crowd into the mind a certain amount of knowledge; but this is a mistaken idea. A proper education will unfold and direct aright our whole being, and call forth powers of thought, will, affection, making its possessor to enjoy continually "a feast of reason and a flow of soul."

The question has been asked, should farmers' daughters receive as good an education as their sons? We think every intelligent person must answer in the affirmative. Not that their education should be essentially the same; that point admits of a variety of opinions, but we think every person will concede that the one needs as much to be educated as the other. Cultivation of mind furnishes a never failing resource, contributing alike to personal influence, and intellectual enjoyment. And think you, young ladies do not need this source of dependence as much as young gentlemen, and in reality more? Excluded in a great measure as they are from the scenes of busy life, and confined to household duties which men term a "tissue of trifles," they are necessitated to retire back into their own minds for a selection of subjects for contemplation, or else to give themselves up to vanity and emptiness of thought. We sincerely pity the errors of any one so deluded, either parent or child, who rests satisfied with having been taught the mere mechanism of reading and writing—who deem their education completed when the memory is crowded with words, leave school, and with that leave-taking, bid farewell to books and exertions.

But the ladies department of Mr. Isham's excellent Farmer, seems crowded with high resolves from a goodly number of daughters of Michigan farmers. With a courageous spirit let us aim still at excellence—"who aims at excellence will be above mediocrity, who aims at mediocrity will be below it."

J\*\*\*.

*To Correspondents.*—Again we say, "*well-done*." In our present number we have over thirty communications, from three different states, viz, Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. In Michigan, eighteen counties are represented, viz: Wayne, Washtenaw, Lenawee, Jackson, St. Joseph, Macomb, Genesee, Clinton, Oakland, Livingston, Lapeer, Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, Calhoun, Barry and Ionia. Some others are necessarily laid over for the next No.

# MICHIGAN FARMER.

DETROIT, AUGUST, 1850.

## NOTES BY THE WAY—No. 70.

BY THE EDITOR.

*The land of Peppermint.*—From Constantine, proceeding northward three or four miles, we entered the neighborhood, in the township of Florence, St. Josephs county, so famous for the cultivation of peppermint. It is a beautiful section of country, consisting of burr oak plains, spread out in beautiful continuity beneath the eye; and we may here add, that these rich and fertile plains extend over a considerable portion of this productive county. Centreville, the county seat, eight miles east of the peppermint neighborhood, is set down upon one of them; and still further east is the township of *Burr Oak*, from which hales friend Betts, whom we had no time to turn aside to see, and in the same region is the township of Colon, of the same general character, where friend Leland has set himself down by the side of a fish pond, and is too lazy to write anything for the Farmer; he, too, had to be passed by. To the north of these, in the same county, is Nottowasippi prairie, somewhat extensive, and well reported of for richness and fertility; and to the south of them is Sturgis' Prairie, of enviable notoriety for its deep, productive soil.—But whither are we wandering? We were talking about peppermint.

*The extent of its cultivation.*—The extent of its cultivation in this neighborhood may be judged of, from the fact that not far from 8,000 lbs. of oil are distilled annually by the producers, and sent east for market, where it usually commands from two dollars to eighteen shillings per pound; sometimes, however, not more than fourteen shillings. We were told of one man here, who has 190 acres devoted to this crop. Others have 20, 40, 80, 100, 120, and 150 acres devoted to it.

*Method of cultivation—Product.*—In the first start, the plants are set out in rows, we think two feet apart—one man setting about half an acre per day. It soon spreads, however, and covers the whole ground. After a field is once set, it requires very little care, less than almost any other crop, very little trouble being experienced here from the growth of weeds; whereas, at the east, it is with much trouble and difficulty that it is kept from being overrun, and hence the advantage our people have over eastern cultivators, who are fast giving up the business to them.

We had been informed that it was almost impossible to get it out of the land, when once rooted in it, and that the land was rendered nearly worthless for any other use. But we learned from

these people that the very reverse is the fact. Instead of its being difficult to exterminate, it will run out of itself. Dea. John Howard, who has eighty acres devoted to it, and from whom we derived most of our information, pointed us to a fine field of wheat which, last year, was in peppermint—no trouble from it having been experienced. He said it would produce, the first year, from 15 to 20 lbs. of oil to the acre; the second year, from ten to fifteen lbs.; the third year, from five to ten pounds, and so on, until it ran out. It is the common practice to turn it under the third year, and this renovates it, as it again shoots up and grows as vigorously, and is as productive as it was the first year it was set out. It is harvested with a cradle, and immediately distilled.

Those who have been engaged in it, seem to have been much prospered. While those devoted to wheat husbandry have lost their labor, these people have had abundant returns for theirs. It is not a business, however, that will admit of a very great degree of competition. Indeed, the business seems to have been rather overdone for the last year or two. Very little of the two last crops have been sold. It is stored at the east awaiting higher prices. Dea. H. has, we think, a thousand pounds there, and there are said to be sixteen thousand pounds there from this neighborhood. But the prospect for a market is brightening, and sales can be effected, probably, at about two dollars per pound. It is said that three-fourths of those engaged in the business in New York and Ohio, have abandoned it; and if so, it will be greatly to the advantage of cultivators here. Cultivators east cannot compete with them.

*Three Rivers*—Nine or ten miles above Constantine, is the village of Three Rivers, located upon a high bluff, sandy and dry, which overlooks the St. Josephs and the two other rivers which empty into it, one of which is the Portage; the name of the other we have forgotten, both being very considerable streams, and the three giving name to the place. To this place, steamboats can come up, in a high stage of water; and from it keel boats and arks descend with produce.—The village is fast spreading itself out over the beautiful plain on which it is located. The inhabitants appear to be a sober people, as not a drop of intoxicating liquor can be procured in the place, although there are several stores and a large public house in it. Here resides Edward S. Moore, Esq., who is still the owner of a magnificent farm between this and Prairie Ronde, on which he used to reside, but who is now extensively engaged in milling and merchandizing in this place. He was absent at Lansing, being a member of the Convention. He is one of the Vice Presidents of our State Agricultural Society. They had a great temperance celebration here on the Fourth; six hundred sat down to a dinner provided for the occasion at the public house.



It is a fine country around this place, in every direction, but it has been greatly to its disadvantage, that there are three sections of University land in its immediate vicinity, which remain unsold, the minimum price being fixed by law at three dollars per acre. If the place keeps on growing in importance, however, it will doubtless sell for that price at no distant day.

From Three Rivers to Prairie Ronde, thirteen miles, we think, we passed through, for the most part, a very pleasant, fertile, well settled, and cultivated country, consisting of burr oak plains and oak openings. Some four or five miles south of Prairie Ronde, we observed one of the best fields of wheat we had seen in our whole tour.—The field was very large; we rode along side of it a half a mile, and judging from the appearance of it, we should estimate it at over thirty bushels per acre. And what surprised us, we were afterwards told that it was put in upon stubble ground, this being the second crop. The land is of the very first order of burr oak soil.

But the heaviest wheat we have seen anywhere, was upon the south side of Prairie Ronde; a great portion of it being badly lodged, especially the white flint variety. We did not observe it to be so, however, to any great extent, upon any other part of the prairie, the burden not being so great.

*Farm of the Hon. E. H. Lothrop.*—Upon the south side of Prairie Ronde, is the farm of Hon. E. H. Lothrop, (who delivered the address at the last State Fair,) consisting of some eight hundred acres, partly upon prairie and partly upon the adjoining openings, about half of which is under improvement. Mr. L. has so much land that he cannot farm it as he should, nor does he profess to. But no man understands better the principles of good husbandry than he, or is more capable of imparting useful instruction in relation thereto, and he designs to contract the limits of his farm, that he may be enabled the better to carry out his principles into practical exemplification.

He has, however, a noble crop of wheat upon the ground, ninety acres, from which he expected to realize three thousand bushels, which would be at the rate of thirty-three and one-third bushels to the acre, the whole ninety acres over.

He remarked, in reference to the greatly improved appearance of the crops upon the prairie, that much, in his opinion, was due to improved cultivation—as deep plowing, &c.

*Sowing too early.*—Across the way from Mr. L.'s wheat, is a field which was sown in August, upon equally good land, and equally well prepared, but the wheat upon it formed quite a contrast to his, not promising more than half as great a yield. He said it came up and grew vigorously, and when winter set in it was very rank and stout, having attained to a considerable height; but when spring opened, it was all dead, covering the ground completely over, and not the slightest appearance of life. After a while it came up

again from the root. Mr. L.'s was sown, we think, after the 10th of September, but we do not remember the precise time. He remarked farther, that wheat, generally, sown thus early upon the prairie last season, turned out equally slim.

Some have thought that August was the proper time to sow wheat, and that feeding it down obviated the danger from too great forwardness; and some instances of its having succeeded well, have fallen under our observation. The advantage arising from its having gotten deep root, it has been supposed, more than counterbalances all disadvantages. We are inclined, however, to the opinion, that it is better to avoid both extremes, as we have often advised, and sow, say from the 10th to the 20th of Sept., unless the insect is prevalent, in which case wheat should never be sown previous to the date last named, but as soon after it as possible, for the reason that the egg of the insect is not deposited after about that time, as has been proved by the closest observation.

*Quantity of wheat upon the prairie.*—Mr. L. estimates the number of acres in wheat upon the prairie, at six thousand, and the average yield at 25 bushels to the acre. There being 29000 thousand acres of land under cultivation upon the prairie, 6000 in wheat, would be only about one fifth, which would be a very low estimate, we should think, judging from appearances.

*Deep plowing.*—Mr. L. thinks that deep plowing, as far as the experiment has been tried, within the sphere of his observation, has been beneficial. And this is the prevalent opinion, although an individual instance or two, seem to indicate a contrary result. In these cases, however, there seem to have been special causes operating to neutralize the beneficial effects, which would otherwise have followed. For instance, Delamore Duncan, Esq., whose farm of a thousand acres, lies a little to the West of Mr. L.'s, remarked, that although the portion of his wheat upon deep plowed land, did not appear to be as good as that upon ground plowed shallower, yet, it was to be accounted for, he thought, from the fact, that the soil upon the portion of his farm where he plowed deep, was clayey, and the more so the deeper it went down, so that the deep plowing turned up a somewhat stiff clay, which, being operated upon by the extreme drouth, baked hard, and hence the result. He thought that in ordinary seasons, the result would have been entirely different.

While two or three instances of this kind came to our knowledge, many instances with opposite results, were related to us. And we think from the nature of the case, there can be no question, that the soil of the prairies will be greatly improved by deep tillage, it being excessively rich in some elements, and deficient in others, and those important to the realization of the best results. It is rich in organic matter, such as results from the decomposition of vegetables, but is deficient in mineral elements, particularly lime, and those are brought up by deep plowing. We hope the good beginning which has been made, will be followed

up, that the farmers upon these highly favored portions of our State, will put their plows in deeper, and deeper, until they get as deep as they can go, and we have no doubt they will be well satisfied with the results.

*Turning under clover upon the prairies*.—In regard to the effect of turning under clover upon the prairies, we have been more doubtful, inasmuch as there is already an excess of vegetable matter in the soil, or rather, organic matter, which constitutes the greater portion of vegetable matter. On the other hand, it may be argued, that it adds very materially to the mineral elements of the soil, by means of its long tap root, which penetrates downward into the earth, one, two, and three feet, where it drinks in the mineral elements which enter into the composition of the plant, and altho' the mineral portion, (the ash of clover when burned) makes but a small part of it, yet, it is to be considered, that it also makes but a small part of other plants, and that this contribution of mineral matter to the surface soil, small as it is, may have an important agency, for if there be a *sufficiency* of mineral matter, the effect of the *redundancy* of organic matter, will be, in a great measure, counteracted.

We were informed of many cases in which turning under clover, had proved manifestly beneficial, and of some, in which it was supposed to do injury. But from all we could learn, in cases where injury resulted, it was turned under with a shallow furrow, and in that case, with such a drouth as we have had the season past, we should hardly expect any thing. We hope experiments upon this matter, in connection with deep plowing, will be pushed upon the prairies, and we have no doubt, that good will be the result.

#### BATHING—ITS ADVANTAGES.

—As a promoter of health, cheerfulness and comfort, the practice of frequent bathing should be identified with our existence. Without it, the pores upon the surface of the body become closed, perspiration is checked and thrown inwards, and this depresses the spirits, deranges the functions of the body, and occasions disease. No wonder then that bathing is esteemed such a luxury by those who practice it.

And not only does frequent bathing promote the health, comfort and happiness of those who practice it, but it is both a promoter of and an emblem of purity of mind. When and where did you ever see a person characterized for personal cleanliness, who was greatly depraved? As a general thing, wickedness and filth on the one hand, and purity of mind and cleanliness of body on the other, are inseparable. We have been lead into this strain of remark, by a glimpse we have lately had of Hill's floating bath house, near Walcott's machine shop, in the direction of the Hydraulic works, in this city. If the brief

view here taken be correct, every such establishment, in such a place as this, is a great public benefit, and its originator a public benefactor.—In the country, some of you have limped streams, and others of you, pebbly bottomed lakes, in which to luxuriate occasionally, during the warm season, but many of you have no such facilities. To such we would say, as you value the health, comfort and happiness of yourselves and families, provide by all means, some artificial means of bathing, and that straightway.

#### NOTES BY THE WAY.—No. 71.

BY THE EDITOR.

*Dr. Freeman's Poultry Yard*.—We had quite a curiosity to visit, as we passed along, the poultry yard of our friend Dr. Freeman, whose residence is 7 or 8 miles south of Kalamazoo, who has been and is still, entertaining the readers of the Farmer with the results of his experience and observation in the poultry line; nor less was our curiosity to see the veritable Dr. himself, and to sit, for a few moments, at his feet; but in this last we were doomed to disappointment, he being absent when we called. We had the pleasure, however, of seeing his yard of fowls, and a sight it truly was, well worth going to see. There were the long ranges of coops, and hen-houses, displaying the taste and skill of an amateur, and there too, were the noble birds of the various breeds specified in his communications, and of all sizes, from the puny chick that had just broken the shell, to the stately cock, that moved in the pride and glory of his unrivalled plumage. Surely, thought we, the Dr. must enjoy this!

We understand that he delivers them to order, ready cooped, at Kalamazoo, to be forwarded to any place desired upon the railroad. His price, we think, is one dollar per pair, fifty cents each, and they are far cheaper at that price, than ordinary fowls at two shillings a pair, considering their great superiority over them, in size, and the laying capacities of the hens, the number of eggs they lay being four times as great as that of the common hen.

*Mr. Edgar's Devon stock*.—A little to the north of Dr. Freeman's, on the way to Kalamazoo, is Mr. Edgar's place, where we made a brief call, during which our attention was attracted to his Devon stock, the noble bull and two yearling heifers, which were exhibited at the State Fair last fall, by Mr. Smith of Coldwater, and which were universally admired for their beauty and symmetry of form. But beautiful and prepossessing as they were then, they are much more so now. The former is certainly a very superior animal, and the latter though but little more than a year old, have developed a perfection of parts seldom witnessed.

Mr. E. has also taken great pains to improve his flock of sheep, by procuring the best blood that

could be obtained. But he complained that efforts to improve the stock of the country were not appreciated by our people, who would pay double, treble and quadruple what was asked by our own farmers, for stock driven in from the east, that was not half as good, simply because it came from the east, so blind were they to their own interests.—The man who had the public spirit to be at the trouble and expense to procure the best blooded animals from the east, with a view to introduce good stock into the country, by breeding, could find no sale for it, unless at about the prices of the common stock of the country, while anything and everything driven in from the east, and cracked up as superior blood, was eagerly bought up at almost any prices that were asked; and it was discouraging enough.

We know how to sympathize with our friend E., for we have been through the mill. We have had the same difficulties to encounter, and though we have sometimes been almost ready to give up in despair, by perseverance we have triumphed over them all, and so may you, and for your encouragement we will give you a morsel of our experience. When we first took the Michigan Farmer, it was almost impossible to make the great mass of our farmers believe that an agricultural paper could be made in Michigan, fit to look at, much less to take and pay a dollar for. We were told to our face, that we should have to draw upon eastern agricultural papers for all our matter, and that they might better take those papers, and thus go to the fountain head for agricultural intelligence, than to take the Michigan Farmer, and only get it second handed, and not very well served at that. They were ready to admit, that if it were possible to have a good agricultural paper in Michigan, it would be the greatest thing for the country that could be done for it, but they seemed to think it out of the question to expect it, there was so much science necessary in the editor, and so many able and experienced correspondents, and so many pictures, and all that—to all which we listened with profound humility, and then went straight to our task. The first year we made some impression. Some were found that were willing to give us a trial, while others, when asked to subscribe, straightened themselves up, and looking very wise, replied with emphasis, "no—I take an eastern agricultural paper," as though they felt their dignity insulted. But we toiled on; those who took and read the paper, liked it, and many of them showed it to their neighbors, while others stumbled upon it in their way, and thus, as fast and as far as it became known, it triumphed over prejudice and opposition, and has finally found its way into every nook and corner of the State. Two years ago, eastern agricultural papers had the ground, and the Michigan Farmer was only stuck in edgewise, here and there, whereas now, the Michigan Farmer has the ground, and eastern agricultural papers are only stuck in edgewise. Those who were most active in exerting

their influence to get up subscription lists for those papers, are now our main dependence in getting up subscription lists for the Michigan Farmer, and it is fast making its way, and "winning golden opinions," among the most distinguished agriculturists of other States. Even those who have differed from us on some points, while they have indulged us in the fearless expression of our views have had the nobility of soul to overlook what they regarded as our small errors, and have given their entire influence to promote the circulation of the Michigan Farmer, in view of the great good it was manifestly accomplishing. Here and there an exception there is, indeed, but those who constitute these exceptions, are getting to be "few and far between, and we fancy that they find their vocation becoming rather "an uphill business," more and more so every month.

Thus have we toiled amid bigotry and prejudice, and thus have we triumphed. Be not disheartened then, in your efforts to improve the stock of the country, for the difficulties you have to encounter, are nothing to those, (of the very same character,) which we have met and overcome. And again we say *persevere*—"don't give up the ship"—we will stand by you and give you all the aid in our power, and your triumph is certain.

**Mr. Milham's Farm**—About 3 miles southeast of Kalamazoo, is the fine farm of John Milham, Esq., consisting of timbered openings, of excellent quality. He is a thorough-going, systematic, and successful farmer. Mr. M. has been very successful as a wheat grower, having realized an average of 20 bushels to the acre, during the five years he has been in the country, except last year, when his average was fifteen bushels. His present year's crop is a good one.

**His flock of Sheep**—In our account of the Kalamazoo Co. Fair, last fall, we spoke of a pen of Paular buck lambs of his, which drew forth universal admiration. These lambs, now a little over a year old, are as large as common bucks three or four years old. The remark was made at the Fair, that he must have pampered them with grain, but he assured us, that the best fare they had been treated to, they had found in the clover field.—These bucks, eight of them, we think, averaged over six pounds to the fleece; one yielded seven, another eight, and another about nine pounds.—Twelve yearling ewes, of the same flock, averaged over five pounds to the fleece, and one went as high as seven. Their wool is remarkably fine, even and strong. He mentioned a fact, that we were not before aware of, viz: that wool, by being packed down, gained in weight more than enough to pay the interest on the money.

Mr. M. has some very good Durham stock, and he showed us a calf five weeks old, that was a perfect model of beauty. By the way, we saw a couple of very superior calves at Mr. Lothrop's—he did not know that they were anything more than native—and three very beautiful Durham



calves at Mr. A. Y. Moore's, together with some good Durham heifers.

Our attention was particularly attracted to Mr. M.'s meadow, which presented a most luxuriant growth of timothy and clover, notwithstanding the drouth, a greater growth than we had observed anywhere in our travels.

He remarked in relation to some fruit trees in the yard, that their growth had been checked by reason of the ground not being cultivated, it being in sod, and noticed the fact, that ground covered with grass sod, became perfectly dry, while cultivated land by the side of it, remained moist, the roots of the grass, having drank up all the moisture. This difficulty, however, may be obviated by mulching, or covering the ground with coarse litter or straw, or partially rotted manure for several feet around the tree, to the depth of six or eight inches, if it is desired not to cultivate the land.

We regretted we could spend but a very short time with him, he being in the midst of his harvest, and we in a hurry to get home.

We had the pleasure of looking in, once more upon the farming operations of Col. Curtin, of Grand Prairie, but being in the midst of his harvest, we did not interrupt him. We saw a most admirable field of wheat upon his farm, of 30 acres. We judged it would go over 30 bushels to the acre.

(The following belongs to the foregoing account of Mr. Lothrop's farm.)

**Chemical change in the soil**—We often heard it remarked, when we first came into the country, some fourteen years ago, that clover would not grow in Michigan, but never believed a word of it. But Mr. L. assured us, that when he commenced farming upon the prairie, twenty years ago, and for some time afterwards, neither clover nor timothy could be made to grow, to any degree of perfection, the product being not more than half a ton to the acre, whereas now immense burdens of those grasses are produced. This difference must have resulted from some chemical change in the composition of the soil.

**Sheep, the West vs. East**—Mr. Lothrop, speaking of the fact, that the same sheep yielded heavier fleeces, and at the same time more free from gum, at the West than at the East, ascribed it to the circumstances, that our winters are much shorter, and more open than are Eastern winters, and that sheep here are suffered to run out more during winter. This, by the way, is but one of the causes, which will eventually compel Eastern wool-growers to give up the business into the hands of Western farmers.

**Different varieties of wheat**—There are several different varieties of wheat cultivated upon the prairie, as the Red Chaff, Blue stem, White Flint, Mediterranean, Soul's, and Hutchinson, or Crate wheat. We asked a great many questions to a great many persons with a view to find out, if possible, which variety was most profitable to cultivate, but with very little satisfaction. Our own impression, from all we have learned from

experience, observation and report of others, that the White Flint and the Mediterranean, the surest, tho' neither of them yield as much as some other varieties, and the former, account of weakness of straw, is very liable to lodge badly, when it grows heavy and to crack when its growth is moderate, if suffered to stand till dead ripe. The red chaff is very uncertain but produces a large yield, when it succeeds. The Hutchinson is in considerable repute, yields more than the two varieties above named but shells badly in harvesting, when ripe. The blue stem seems to be more largely cultivated here, than almost any other variety, and we should judge it to be a good variety, but, what there is peculiar about it, we could not learn, tho' we tried our best. The Soul's wheat was also well spoken of by some, tho' Mr. L. said it had not succeeded well with him. He cultivates the White Flint and Hutchinson. See Mr. Gage's communication on this subject.

**Difference of climate**—We expressed surprise to Mr. L. that the wheat was so much more backward here, than it was a few miles further South in St. Joseph Co, where their harvest was pretty well through with. He remarked that the difference was found equally great in different localities Northward, and said, that he had started from home "after harvest," and found, when he arrived at Gull Prairie, (about 24 miles) that the harvest was just being commenced there, and that when he arrived at Grand Rapids, about 50 miles, he thought, further on, it was not within two weeks of harvest time.

**Drilling in wheat**—Mr. Duncan, of whom we have spoken above, said he had put in a part of his wheat with a drill, and that there was quite a difference between the portion thus put in, and that sown broadcast, the difference being, he thought, four or five bushels to the acre, in favor of the former.

Mr. Lothrop afterwards gave us an account of his method of putting in a piece of wheat which seemed not very unlike drilling, the effect of which seemed to be highly beneficial. The field was cross plowed rather coarsely, the furrows being wide apart, and the seed sown directly upon them, and dragged in, the dragging having the effect to collect and bury the seed all the furrows, so that it came up in regular rows. We understood him to say, that the wheat close by the side of it, and, we think, on both sides of it, put in as wheat usually is, was nearly or quite destroyed by the insect, while this was unmolested, and produced a heavy crop.

**Effect of packing the Surface**—Mr. Geo. Land, of Gourd Neck Prairie remarked to us, that his corn this year was much stouter upon the head lands of his field, which had been trodden down by his oxen in turning about, after they were plowed, than upon the rest of his field, and hence he concluded that rolling would be highly beneficial to prairie land.

**Increased yield of wool.**—A. Y. Moore Esq., year obtained an average of 3 lbs 6 oz. in his very fine flock of 33 sheep, and this year he obtained from the same sheep an average of 4 lbs 7 oz, being an increase of more than twenty-five per cent over last year. He said he had purchased for manufacturers about a thousand pounds of wool this season, and the increase in the weight of fleece over last year, is about the same with that of his own in the case of every one he had bought of. He said Edgar sheared 412 lbs the present season, in 99 sheep. Add to the increased yield of wool, the increased yield of price, and the increased number of sheep over last year, and it tells the increased income of our farmers to be a snug little aggregate.

**Sorrel upon the Prairies.**—We were surprised to find so many fields upon the prairies, thickly covered with sorrel. It has been generally supposed that sorrel will flourish only on poor, or exhausted land. But still, we cannot but think, that it denotes bad husbandry, or neglect of proper cultivation. Mr. Leland spoke of a field of sorrel, so infested with it, that it was useless to sow the ground to wheat, and said that the only way to exterminate it upon the prairies, was to plow and hoe the ground well for two years in succession, and that was effectual. It seems to be more manageable upon light lands.

We observed one field upon Terracopia prairie covered all over with mullens.

#### NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

**THE MICHIGAN FARMER.**—This paper commences a new volume with the July number, now before us; and we but reiterate public opinion, wherever it is known, in saying that it is among the very best agricultural journals in the Union. To the practical farmers of Michigan it is far more valuable than any other paper of the kind, and should be well patronized by them if they desire information in relation to their high and important pursuit. The price per year is nothing compared to the value it yields to the farmer.—*Monroe County Adv.*

**MICHIGAN FARMER.**—The July number of this excellent agricultural journal commences a new volume. Besides the able editorials of Mr. Isham, the paper is composed of original matter from the best correspondents. We should be glad to see it in the hands of every farmer in the country.—*Western Chron.*

**Michigan vs. Ohio.**—A few days since, Mr. Ephraim Perkins, of Southfield, Oakland co., came to our office, and said he had seen in the Detroit Daily Tribune, a statement from a man in Ohio, that he had counted one thousand grains of wheat, the product of a single stool, and added that he had raised a stool of wheat the present season, the grains of which he counted, and found them to number sixteen hundred and seventeen! Beat that who can. He wants the Tribune to tell of this also, and calls on the Ohio man, to "knock under!"

#### ANOTHER PEST OF THE FARMER—HOW IS IT TO BE ENCOUNTERED? WHO KNOWS? IF ANY, LET HIM SPEAK.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham:

There is a plant grown very plentifully in this section of country, which, like the dock, I think very unprofitable. Indeed it may be more so, for aught I know, for the dock root is considered valuable in certain cases, but I know of no use in the world that the other is ever put to, unless cattle sometimes eat it. It grows in moist ground in the woods, and continues to grow when the land is cleared. It starts early in the spring, growing up ten or twelve inches high, and sometimes higher, and has a yellow, shining, glistening flower. The root lives on from year to year, and produces seed early in the season, after its kind. In some places it is so thick that when in bloom, it gives the ground a yellow appearance, at a distance.

The root is white and fibrous. I will enclose a specimen of the leaves and should be glad if you would give it a name, and tell me its uses. For lack of a better name I call it yellow daisy. My children call it butter-cup.

I beg pardon for the trouble I am making you, and wish to remain your friend and subscriber.\*

Yours, &c.

EPHRAIM S. WALKER.

\* Of the pest here described we probably know nothing; but the flower seems to resemble somewhat that of another which is becoming common among our farmers, who seem not to be aware that an enemy is taking possession of their fields, which is not easily to be dislodged. It is called "Charlock," and is one of the most troublesome of weeds when once in possession of the soil. In our travels, we have seen whole fields of wheat yellow with it when in blossom. The following description of it we take from the "Farmer's Encyclopedia." By the way, we hope friend Walker will often favor the readers of the Farmer with the results of his experience.—Ed.

"Charlock has been introduced from Europe, and has become quite extensively naturalized in several parts of the United States. Being an annual plant, it is very difficult to get rid of, and when once in possession of a spot will long bid defiance to all attempts made for its total extirpation. It infests clayey grounds, such as are particularly well adapted to the culture of wheat and other valuable grains. Its seeds contain a preservative oil, which, with their great firmness, enables them to remain sound under ground for an almost unlimited period. Those only which

are brought by tillage within a certain distance of the surface, sprout and grow, while the deeper covered remain for the production of another crop when brought up by the plow sufficiently near the surface. The only practical mode of eradicating this and other pests of annual growth, is to *prevent the plants from going to seed*, by cutting down when in blossom. The greatest care should be taken to inspect seed-grain before sowing, to see that no seeds of charlock, or other troublesome weeds, are in the samples. The leaves, flowers, long, round and irregular seed-pods, and odor of the root, are very similar to those of the common radish. Farm stock generally are fond of the plant, and especially sheep, which, when it is possible to turn upon the field sufficiently early, will keep it from growing up to seed.

"In Ireland and the northern parts of Europe, as well as in some parts of America, young charlock is boiled for greens, in the same manner as cabbage-sprouts, &c."

#### TRANSACTIONS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We have recently received from the Secretary, the Transactions of the Michigan State Agricultural Society for 1849, embracing the Constitution and doings of the Society, the Address of Lieut. Gov. Fenton at its formation, the Address of the Hon. E. H. Lothrop, at the State Fair, that of Hon. Joseph R. Williams, at the Kalamazoo county fair, together with several other addresses before county societies, and Reports from the Secretaries of the same, making a volume of 234 pages, in pamphlet form. It embodies a large amount of valuable matter.

#### IMPORTANT EXPERIMENT WITH WHEAT AND CORN.

Dowagiac, July 16, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

I herewith send you one dollar for your new volume of the Farmer, which you will send to Ansel Post, of this place, for one year, commencing with the July No. of course. I shall continue to do what I can to advance the interest of your paper, confident that in so doing, I shall advance equally the great interest of farming generally throughout our state.

*The crops.*—Wheat in this (Cass) county, is a good crop. During the dry weather, many of us here, had well nigh despaired of the entire crop, both of wheat and grass; but happily the rains set in, in time to save both.

*Different varieties of wheat and different modes of plowing the land.*—I have raised, this season, three kinds of wheat; Mediterranean, on sod ground summer fallow; white flint, on do. do.; and Hutchinson on sod ground turned once over. For experiment, in seeding, I let the Mediterranean lap a few rods on to the raw sod,

and in like manner, the Hutchinson to the rods on to the summer fallow. I can receive no material difference in the yield of Hutchinson wheat; whether on summer sod; or on sod once plowed; or on that the raw sod which had been turned over three weeks before seeding, or but three days. The Mediterranean gives the best yield on the summer fallow. The experiment was tried in a field of about four acres, which had lain to grass about years, and all of a similar soil—a sandy loam. The Mediterranean wheat does not produce a great yield, by measure as the other kinds; but an offset to this it possesses two excellencies; great weight of berry, and certain crop every year. When ground, mixed half with Hutchinson or Flint, it makes doubly the best flour we have ever used; the Mediterranean imparting a moisture, and a softness which other kinds alone do not possess.

*Rolling.*—I have planted this year 100 acres of corn on clover sod. A part of it was injured. The whole was well plowed at depth, and the sod well rolled down before planting. As rolling is rather an expensive operation with me, I concluded to use a roller, at as little expense as possible. A wood log, eight feet long, and thirty inches in diameter forms the roll. Gudgeons drive the ends, form the axles; two side peices, one piece behind, and two front peices, into the pole is framed, form the draft-work; a half inch augur hole through each piece drives over each axle for the convenience of completing the machine. A yoke of lumpy oxen have all they can well do, to draw it over the ground; but "you had better believe," it makes a fine smooth surface, for laying off the rows. My ground is a sandy loam, approaching to what may be termed light sandy loam. This kind of land I have thought, will pay for rolling for all kinds of crops; particularly grains and grass; but I am of the opinion, that a harrow should, in most cases follow the roller to prevent the surface from baking, or crusting over which would have a tendency to prevent proper absorption of the gasses from the atmosphere, and a wholesome action of the sun and the rains upon it.

*Surprising effect of plaster.*—Having used plaster with good effect on my clover fields, having heard and read much concerning its wonderful effect in retaining the gasses of manure, I resolved to try the experiment on my corn ground. For this purpose, I sowed two rows across the sod on which manure had just been spread. On the first I sowed at the rate of half bushel per acre; and the other at the rate of three pecks. The whole field was then immediately plowed, and in all other respects has been treated in the same manner. In two weeks after planting, the corn on the strips on which



was sown, showed the most surprising That on which the greatest quantity ed, the most gratifying. This strip was de enough to comprise three rows of corn, en it was knee high here, it was but about at height on either side. I have just return- an examination at this date, (July 21,) e difference is still equally surprising.— ree rows in question are from nine to ten n height, tasseled, and in full blossom; the rows on either side, are but just be- g to show the tassel, and are from two to et less in height. The rows in question t a large and vigorous looking stalk, with luxuriant, deep green leaves; the others, er side, though looking well for sod ground at this season of the year, plainly show, ey have not yet felt the full effects of the d the manures beneath their roots. The of the plaster seems to have been, to retain sses of the manure, and the sod, and in way to prepare the whole for a direct ap- on to the roots of the young plant.— per the final result at harvest, will be equal- ifying, remains yet to be seen. The plas- hich I have used is the Grand River plas- hich I consider equal to the Cayuga and gton county plaster in the State of New

JUSTUS GAGE.

## CHEERING LETTER.

BERRIEN SPRINGS, July '50.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—The last few numbers of the Michigan Farmer have been sent to me, as I suppose, by some unknown friend. They have been taken regularly from the office, and thoroughly read, and I assure you that as a reader of various agricultural papers, I consider the Michigan Farmer equal to the best I have ever seen, and am pleased to find that our State is favored with a paper so well calculated to promote its great lead- ing interest. In token of my sincerity, I send \$5 for six copies, which you will please forward to this Post Office.\*

WM. DOUGHERTY.

Mr. Dougherty adds, that if desired, he will occasionally furnish a communication for the Farmer.

We hope he will do so, and thus redeem the character of Berrien co. When we were in the office, the other day, some one, friend Merrick, we think, remarked to us, that he had observed communications in the Farmer from almost every co. in the State, except Berrien, and he seemed to regard it as an odium upon the county, which ought to be wiped off. Upon our inquiring who there was in the county, that could be depended upon as a reliable correspondent, the prompt reply was, Wm. Dougherty, of Berrien Springs, one of the most energetic, successful, and well-informed far-

mers in the county." We think we know of several others in that county, who would also do it honor as correspondents of the Farmer.—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

BATH, Clinton Co., Mich. }  
July 8th, 1850. }

Mr. Isham—Dear Sir:

Allow me to suggest to those dealing in improved farming implements, that it is very far from being convenient for many farmers to visit their warehouses and examine for themselves the various articles kept by them; and also that many of the farmers in the "back woods" have never heard of, much less seen, the improved implements, by the use of which dollars may be saved, and the products of the soil enhanced.

Our farms are not *all* new, and even if they were, I am inclined to think some implements of improved construction may be employed—for instance, corn-shellers, chaff-cutters, &c. This suggestion implies that there are sources of the information deemed desirable, other than a visit to Detroit or elsewhere; and among the best, I think, would be the publication in the "Farmer" of a list of the articles, with the *lowest* cash prices affixed to each one; and my word for it, the salesmen would be remunerated, as well as the farmer and State benefited.

Very respectfully

Your ob't serv't,

JAMES MARSDEN.

P.S. Should the suggestion be adopted, I shall take pleasure in circulating the information.

## A RESPONSE ON DITCHING.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir: When I came up from ditching, the other night, I was pleased to find the Michigan Farmer had come, and in it a good article on ditching. I heartily agree with friend Dawson, and can suggest one improvement, viz: a ditching hook, to pull out the sods and bogs, and it is handy and useful in loading and unloading manure, working on the highway, digging potatoes, mellowing the garden, &c. &c. I cut the sides of my ditch, which is three or four feet wide on the top, (and the sides of a ditch that will stand ought to be made at an inclination of forty-five degrees; and the philosophy of this is, that when the ditch settles, instead of becoming narrow, and falling in, it becomes wider and does not fall in;) with a good spade, ground sharp, and as deep as I can, and then cut across a slice about a foot wide, or more, when my boys strike in the hook and jerk it out. Two men will dig twenty or thirty rods in a day, if tolerably clear of roots and logs. My hook is made of iron, with three tines, ten or twelve inches long, and bent nearly a half circle, the shank going on the under side of the handle, fastens on like a scythe, with a heel-ring and wedge.

Hadley, June 11th, 1850. RUSSELL COBB.

## Horticultural.

### NOTES BY THE WAY.—No. 72.

BY THE EDITOR.

**Murdering Apple Trees**—But a few days ago, while Mr. Rowland Clark (near Niles) was showing us through his garden, he pointed us to several apple trees, whose heads he had severed from their bodies entire, all at one time, with a view to give them new ones, and remarked, "you are right; it is down-right murder;" and O, such trees! It was enough to move one to tears almost, to look at them, miserable, ugly looking, deformed, scrubby dwarfs, that will never come to any thing. They had been grafted 3 or 5 years, we forget which.

We have on a former occasion, given his method of raising onions, and in our present number it is reiterated, in connexion with the method of "Senex." We had ocular demonstration of his success in that department, and also that of "Senex," when we afterwards visited him at Beardsley's Prairie.

**Grafting the Plum upon the wild plum stock—the objection to it removed.**—The great objection to grafting the tame plum upon the wild plum stock, has been, that the former overgrows the latter, so as, in a short time, to become twice or three times its size—and although the stock, even under these disadvantages, is said to be fully adequate to support the top, yet so great is the deformity, that it is absolutely painful to look at it. At the same time, it appeared to be desirable, in the highest degree, that there should be some way to get over this difficulty, as the product of this union, seemed to be all that could be desired in the plum tree, so far as hardiness, and freedom from disease is concerned. This desideratum has been found. As we were rambling with the Hon. E. H. Lothrop, of Prairie Ronde, among his fruit trees, he pointed us to a plum tree, which he said was grafted upon the wild plum stock. There it was, all the way of a size, from the ground to the limbs. But how is this? said we. Upon which he explained the mystery, which consisted simply in cutting off the stock and inserting the graft, from 1½ to 2 inches below the surface of the ground. He said there was no appearance of its having been grafted at all.

**Chestnut trees in Michigan.**—Mr. L. has made an experiment in the culture of chestnut trees, which

shows pretty clearly, that they will not be as to come to anything unless planted in a light soil. He planted some chestnuts, upon prairie or rather the adjoining burr-oak soil, and they came up well, but never could be made to grow beyond mere scrubs. Mrs. L., however, being determined to have a chestnut tree, at a time when Mr. L. was called from home, ordered a hole to be dug and a cart load (or two) of sand to be brought and emptied into it, and had a scrubby young chestnut set out in the sand. Immediately it began to grow and grew vigorously, and has continued so ever since, and it is now quite a thrifty little tree, while, less than ten feet from it, one of the little scrubs which was planted, came up and grew in company with it, until the former was transplanted in the sand. And what is very singular, the frost cuts down the little dwarfing it up upon the heavy prairie, or burr-oak soil every year, while it never affects its more favored neighbor upon the sand, only a few feet distant. Mr. L. observed further, that he had seen Judge Wells of Schoolcraft, have one of the trees which he planted upon the sand thrown out well, which also grew vigorously, and had been planted in the rich heavy soil of the prairie, had none of them come to anything.

**The Apple Tree Borer.**—Calling a few moments at the residence of O. C. Hill, Esq., in the morning, as, about three miles north of Prairie Ronde, while we were being shown about his fruit and garden, in company with friend Lothrop, Mr. Robinson, of Schoolcraft, our attention was attracted to an apple tree, a limb of which, about over half an inch in diameter, was hanging down as though it had been sawed off, the bark upon the under side alone being left unsevered, and this it hung. Upon examination, one might have been very easily led to the conclusion, that it had been cut off with a fine saw. Upon splitting open the end of the part cut off, the rogue that did the mischief, was found, snugly esconced in the pith or heart of the limb, some two inches from the end where it entered. It was a flattish, worm-like creature, about three-fourths of an inch in length, with a reddish head.

Mr. H. has taken pains to adorn his domestic abode with a choice variety of fruit and ornamental trees, among which we noticed a chestnut (growing with thrift in the sand) butternut, black walnuts, cedars, hemlocks and tamarack, together with various kinds of shrubbery.

**Ladder.**—We noticed also upon his a fruit ladder, say 12 feet high, four or five at the base, and tapering as it ascended about one foot, at the top, to the top of which was attached a tongue, or that when the ladder is placed at an angle of 45 degrees, more or less, the tongue, or reaching down to the earth, will sustain it the round to which it is attached being like a sled roller, by which means the ladder may be placed at a greater or less inclination, a very great convenience, which is found in every fruit yard, and of so simple construction, that any one can make it, scarcely at all turning aside from the labor of the farm. It is attention to these little things more than people are apt to imagine, which make up the sum total of domestic com-

**the Fruit Trees bear.**—It may be known of our readers, that a barren fruit tree, made to bear, by cutting out a ring of bark and the limbs, near their base. Messrs. Robinson (who accompanied us to the farm) mentioned a decided instance of this, the result of an experiment by Judge Wells, of the farm. A single limb of an apple tree, which never bore, nor even blossomed, was cut off, and when the proper time came round, it bore blossoms and bore fruit in great profusion, while every other limb of the tree remained barren, both of flowers and fruit, as before. The practice, if applied to the entire top, or any considerable portion of it, would doubtless destroy the tree, but it is an excellent method of ascertaining whether a barren tree is worth an effort to bring into bearing, by root pruning, &c.

**Prouty's Nursery.**—About a year ago, we visited the nursery grounds of A. T. Prouty, Esq., a few miles to the west of Kalamazoo village, where we passed thro' them the other day, and were never more surprised than to see the nursery visible in every part of it, not only a large enlargement of its area, by the introduction of new and choice varieties of trees and shrubs, but in their wonderful growth. Mr. Prouty is careful not only to exclude all worthless varieties, but all deemed ordinary. He reports that he cultivated none which were produced second, third, and fourth rate, by poor cultivation. And he appears to be reaping the reward of his labors, for we heard him say he had sold trees and shrubbery the last year into sixteen different counties—a pretentious beginning, truly.

**the farm of Aaron Eames.**—We know not where we have seen a more thrifty and selected variety of fruit trees of every de-

scription, than upon the farm of Aaron Eames, located upon the west side of Grand Prairie, which lies about four miles west of Kalamazoo, and is one of the most beautiful of all the beautiful prairies we have delighted to gaze upon in our recent tour. Upon the west side of it is a gradual ascent, forming quite a rising ground at its point of junction with the woods, and here his house is located, and an orchard of 500 rare fruit trees, is spread out upon this delightful slope.

Mr. E. is a great amateur in the fruit department, and his horticultural triumphs are worthy of all praise. He talked incessantly during the few moments we were with him, although he protested that generally his words were few. Among the multitude of good things he said, he let drop a remark, which fairly startled us with its sparkling coruscations, and which we gathered up and placed as a choice gem in our intellectual casket. "The beauty of a thing is the reason it," said he, still rushing on with his discourse, as though totally unconscious of having said anything specially note-worthy. And be assured, that we had occasion, before we left him, to admire the application he had made of this little bit of philosophy. He showed us apples upon grafts inserted only a year ago last spring. In grafting seedling trees, of any considerable size, he cuts off about one-third of the top annually, taking generally about three years to renovate the entire top.

**Manuring with Charcoal.**—He thinks charcoal one of the best manures for fruit trees, about half a load to a tree. He pointed us to a tree of the "Black Apple" variety, which had been thus manured, and observed that the apples were free from those knotty spots which are generally to be seen upon them, and thought it might be the effect of the charcoal.

**Maple Grove—the Paw Paw.**—Back of his house is a beautiful sugar maple grove, of 15 acres, some twenty or thirty years old, we should judge, interspersed with here and there a scattering elm, black walnut, and paw paw; the latter of which, we saw for the first time. The specimen we saw was, perhaps, 25 feet high, and three or four inches through at the base, and that, he said, was about as large as they ever grew. Its fruit which was green, was about the size and shape of a sheep's kidney, and he said that some were very fond of it, its taste being somewhat like that of a pine apple. The leaf is almost exactly like that of the common "poke root," being about the same size, shape, and general appearance.

He has a fine "sugar bush," a mile or two distant. He showed us a sample of maple sugar, as white and nice as loaf sugar, and said the process of making it had been described in the Farmer.

**A contrivance of his for watering stock.**—One disadvantage upon portions of this prairie, is, that there is a scarcity of water for stock, and the wells being very deep, it is troublesome depending upon them. Mr. E. has a plan in contemplation for



obviating this difficulty, which commends itself to all acquainted with the principles of hydraulics. In the first place he has barn and shed roof enough to keep a hundred barrel cistern pretty well filled at all times, in ordinary seasons. To make this water available for stock, he proposes to insert one end of a syphon in this cistern, and the other end in a trough to which his cattle may have access, and of course the trough being lower than the bottom of the cistern, (and it can easily be so placed) the water will continue to run, if no obstruction is interposed, till it all runs out. But to prevent an undue quantity running out at one time, he proposes to have a floating board in the trough, which will of course rise, as the water rises, until it comes in contact with the end of the syphon, when the water will stop. As the water is drank out, it will lower the board, and a resupply be let in, till again obstructed in the same manner.

His well is 97 feet deep, and bricked up. He also has a plan for drawing water from his well by horse power, by means, not of an endless chain, but an endless strap, supplied with small buckets, and made of a material which will not be affected by water.

Many other contrivances we observed about his place, which showed much ingenuity. He pointed us to a twelve feet gate, of a very light and fragile construction, which he said had stood 14 years, and it appeared to be perfectly sound and good, and opened and shut with as little difficulty as it did the first day it was hung, the posts standing perfectly upright in their places, being red cedar, seven inches square, and extending just as far below the surface of the ground as they did above it.

Within doors, the same spirit of progress was observable. The parlor carpet, the handiwork of Mrs. E. showed a skill and perfection in domestic manufacture, which is not often surpassed.—Here, too, we were shown the likeness of their beloved boy, an only son, and an only child, of whom they had been bereaved, from the effects of a disease contracted in the Mexican war. He belonged to the company which went out under Col. Curtenius.

After a sojourn of twenty minutes, during which we saw all these interesting things, and many more, being treated to a glass of lemonade, we reluctantly took our leave, and proceeded on our way.

☞ We would say to our correspondents, when they send us articles which exceed a page, we shall be under the absolute necessity, for variety's sake, of dividing them, unless, indeed, they embody something of very extraordinary, and very pressing interest.

## PLANT TREES.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Editor:

The pleasure of one who trees, is something like that of a poet, who, as Aristotle observes, "is more delighted with his productions, than any other writer or artist ever." I know men who have lived in Michigan 12 to 20 years—(sorry to say it)—who yet have eaten fruit of their own raising; and then on the subject, and they readily admit that it is full of interest for them; they get no time—next year they intend some trees; but, as Judge Brown remarked in conversation a few days since, "next year them as they are, simply because they cannot trees of the particular kind they desire." I have said to him, "I must set out some trees; have you any egg plum, Judge?" He answered, "I have a few varieties of common plum, and you are welcome to some if you choose to take them." The reply is, "I guess I won't any—I'll wait till I can get some egg plum." "The result is, they never find trees to suit; they do, they cost something, and they cannot afford the expense; while the next man gets trees he can, and whenever he can, well knows that small shoots, properly cared for, soon become trees, and before the first character thinks trees to be had, he finds that his neighbors have plenty of fruit, and wonders how it is that he is not able to obtain trees."

Another objection is, "it takes too much time to attend to these things." In the ordinary business of farming or mechanics, it is but a pastime to rear a few trees, prune them, watch their growth, and I dare assert that a man who does it does not detract from the common concerns of business in a perceptible degree, to raise enough fruit to make a comfortable family comfortable." It is like a man who always finds time to inform his mind by reading, or even to write an occasional article for the Mich. Farmer. Then, again, how much does a man feel to eat fruit raised from trees of his own planting, and be able to give some to his friends for their gratification.

An eminent English writer remarks: "A man considers that the putting a few twigs in the ground, is doing good to one who will be his appearance in the world fifty years hence; that he is, perhaps, making one of his descendants easy or rich, by so inconsiderable an expense; if he finds himself averse to it, he concludes that he has a poor and base heart, devoid of all generous principles and love to mankind."

I know, when one talks of posterity in matters of this nature, he is looked upon with an eye of ridicule by the cunning and selfish. Most people are of the humor of an old fellow of a col-

When he was pressed by the society to come something that might redound to the good of successors, grew very peevish. Says he, "I am always doing something for posterity, and would fain see posterity doing something for me."

There are two small orchards in this town, between 50 or 60 thrifty-looking cions of rare varieties, which they were before friend Cone made known through the Farmer, and he has abundance for it.

That I am on this subject, let me ask my farmers why they manifest so much indifference about planting fruit and ornamental trees? Certainly is more lasting enjoyment to be derived from that kind of employment, than is to be derived from their philosophy." The immortal very truly remarks, "There is, in nothing truly magnificent in this kind of employment; it gives a noble air to some parts of the earth; it fills the earth with a variety of beauties; it has something in it like creation!" Its splendid idea, and how truthful, too! Its tendency is to make man feel the dignity of his origin—to interest him in his destiny, and to make him feel the essence of Divinity.

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

H. F. BAKER.

If you find anything in all this, worth your attention, you are at liberty to use it as you like—dissect, subdivide, trim and prune, publish or not, as you think fit. But if curious people are anxious to know more, as well as preach, tell them I have raised seven years from the seed, that last year near one bushel of apples each, and one foot in circumference 18 inches in diameter—ground—plum trees, from little scrawny four years old, that bore, last year, near one bushel, and other things to correspond; they ask my mode of treatment, I will tell them.

As ever,

H. F. B.

Excuse all imperfections. If this finds its way to you, you may hear from me again.\*

\*Necessity for apologies—give us "more of the same sort."—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

EDWARDSBURGH, JUNE 24.

If there are any of your readers who do not understand all about raising onions, and find it much to their advantage to receive the dirt so that the bulb may grow mostly underground. If the roots have firm hold in good soil, free from weeds, good onions may be raised.

SENEX.

Some of our readers will recollect the advice I gave of the way Mr. Rowland Clark, of

Niles, raises onions, which, if our recollection serves, was to plant three in a hill, or rather hole, so that the three onions as they grow, will turn each other out of the ground, and grow edgewise, the roots being only in the ground. We think Mr. C. sated that in good ground, all three of the onions would be as large as tea-saucers, and the yield nonstrous. In this operation the onion enjoys the advantage recommended by our venerable friend of Beardsley's Prairie.

For the Michigan Farmer.

## ON POULTRY.

BY DR. M. FREEMAN.

July 20, 1850.

Mr. Isham:

Dear Sir—In a former communication on fowls, I intimated I might be induced to give a statement of my mode of management, of the different breeds I am propagating, and of the product of thirteen hens, 6 Malays and 7 others, part English game breed. The result has not only proved satisfactory, but enables me to test the difference in the laying properties of different breeds, also the hardiness and quickness of growth.

I have remarked heretofore, that I keep my fowls yarded during the laying season, that they may be induced to lay more. They possess the power of restraining the formation of the egg, previous to a certain state of development, which I have tested repeatedly, by removing them to different places; here, if they are to be kept yarded, they should be made familiar with the places before the laying season commences, (which is in February) that they may feel themselves fully established in quarters, which should be made comfortable: a quispot, as well as dry and airy, should be selected. They should not be disturbed by frequent visits and alarms, but when visited should be approached in a quiet manner, being called, and a few grains scattered among them, by which means they soon become familiar with the attendant, who is rather welcome than otherwise.

Many persons believe that fowls evince such a disposition to roam, and be constantly scratching and picking, that they must be indulged, or they would not do well, which, however, is a mistake. Experience teaches that not even pigs will bear confinement better, if a favorable place is provided for them, and they are supplied with such articles as they need; as a proof of which I will here state the product of the thirteen hens before alluded to.

In February of last year, I placed them in a stable, of 12 feet square, with plank floor, and kept grain of different kinds, water, gravel and ashes, where they could have access to them at all times; occasionally I let them out towards sunset, and during the summer, I threw to them weeds and the refuse leaves of vegetables from the garden. From the time they were first shut up until October, I obtained from them seventy-two dozen eggs, and raised ninety chickens. I was thus particular that I might speak definitely; I kept no account of the amount of feed they eat. My plan is to keep it constantly before them and when first yarded, they will eat voraciously but in a few days they become satisfied, and consume much less than it fed what may be called literally twice or thrice a day, but I was very particular in the expenses of the chickens. I charged them with twelve dozen eggs at twelve cents per doz., and when fit for table use, (at least half grown) the twelve doz. eggs and feed they ate, amounted to twenty-seven shillings. I am confident that a sale of all the eggs and chicken, would have purchased more feed than my horse, cow, pigs, hens and chickens consumed during the time, all of which I fed grain daily.

I have adopted a new plan this year in rearing chickens. Heretofore I have cooped the hen, and let the chickens run in and out, feeding them on Indian meal, millet seed and sour milk at the end of five or six weeks I return the hen to the yard, and place the chickens in an enclosure made of slats about ten or twelve feet square; a board roof over one end, with roosts under it, and in one corner a close coop for them to roost in at first, which is sufficiently large for fifty. I still continue the same feed, with the addition of beet, cabbage and lettuce leaves. This season I keep both the hen and chickens in an enclosure made of wall lath, four feet square, with a x in one corner about 18 inches square, to rot in, with a bottom board extending 18 inches to the enclosure, to eat from. When they are from 12 to 15 days old, I take the hen from them, and let them remain in the enclosure until they are six or eight weeks old, when I remove them to the large coop above described. I have never had them do better—they are more safe from their enemies, and do no mischief, besides which their flesh is of the finest flavor.

(To be continued.)

For the Michigan Farmer

#### LETTER FROM OHIO—CROSBY ON THE MAUMEE.

Waterville, Lucas Co. Ohio, Jr 16, 1850.  
Dear sir:

On our Post Office changing hands, I perceive that you continue to send the "Farmer" to my uncle Dr. Partridge, although he has been dead for seven months. I have taken the last two numbers and am much pleased with it. Did my uncle owe anything for it?—

By all means continue the paper, for, although I am a medical man, yet I anticipate turning farmer at no distant period, and to such I consider your paper almost indispensable, (I mean to the Farmers.) In this section land is rich and productive, yet farmers are generally poor, and cannot afford to take an agricultural paper, at least they think so. If I am not mistaken I can form a club of twelve or more. I have not tried, but intend to, as soon as harvest is over. Wheat excellent, and the other crops promise well.

Yours, truly,

WELCOME PRAY.

\*Dr. Pray was just one year in arrears the first of July 1850—Ed.

For the Michigan Farmer.

#### ABOUT HORSES.

MR. EDITOR:—

There always was and will be different opinions about all kinds of business, and therefore I wish writers would give us the particulars of the whys and wherefores; for we have often to give it a sort of a yankee guess after reading, and we should sow early and should sow late, etc., without any reason why, in either case. In the May No. of the Farmer we see the points of a good horse set forth, and a particular notice of Mr. Moore's, which I have no doubt is a good horse for some uses. I should judge by the description given, he is of a good breed for a light carriage, for a livery stable, or for the saddle, but we want horses for many other uses. I believe almost every agricultural writer agrees, that deep plowing is the best, and this wants large heavy horses. Every farmer should have a span of horses that weigh in common good condition, 2,800 or 3,000 lbs.; (better more than less,) they can walk steady, and plow much better and faster than a span of horses that have to strain every nerve in them, and go too fast to make good work, and then stop and rest. It is the same with most other work; all the wagoning can be done with less time and less cost for keeping.

As for the sale of horses, I have never known a man troubled to find a buyer for a large, able pair of horses, and as for the prices, the larger the horse the more price is generally paid for them, if they are active, well made and well broke. There are but few men that will pay large prices for small horses. A large span of horses will travel as far in a day as we ever want to ride, either for business or pleasure. A fast walker is better for a business horse than any other fast gait. Now for the fine points of a horse, I will number only three. Let him be large, active and fat, and you have a good horse to use or sell. I do not mean



understood that I have no choice in the  
of a horse, but these are the most essen-  
ASA N. OTIS.

Greenfield, June 10, 1850.

For the Michigan Farmer.

# THE GANG-PLOW—INFORMATION WANTED—ONCE PLOWING FOR WHEAT.

GREEN OAK, LIV. Co., July 15, '50.

Isam:

Dear Sir—Enclosed you have \$1  
the Farmer for the present year.

Allow me to solicit your aid in getting some  
information in relation to the gang-plow. While  
the State Fair last fall, I witnessed its opera-  
and thought it might work well on my farm  
which is fully free from stumps, and of sandy soil.  
You have traveled much through the State,  
must have seen this plow in operation, I think  
can judge of its utility. Will this plow work  
in turning over clover sod? What is its cost,  
where can it be obtained?

I have for two years past plowed but once, and  
satisfied, that it is better than twice or three  
wing, and think that clover sod should be  
red soon after harvest—hence my anxiety to  
a gang plow, if I can get on faster and do the  
k even. Wheat in this vicinity promises well,  
withstanding the extreme drought. I think  
never had a better quality of wheat. An ear-  
answer to this will much oblige

A. W. OLDS.

We are glad inquiries are beginning to be  
de after this plow, and hope it will soon be in-  
duced into general use on lands adapted to it,  
all lands are, except such as are very stumpy,  
very stony. It certainly effects a great saving  
labor and expense. We see not why it will  
tura under clover, as well as any other plow.  
do not remember the cost of it, and know not  
re it is to be obtained. The inventor lived at  
werfield, near Prairie Ronde, but has removed  
Niles. Why does he not take some means to  
g his plow into use? Why does he not estab-  
an agency in Detroit, and other places, adver-  
it in the Farmer, and go ahead? We find  
following notice of this plow in the very able  
highly interesting and instructive address de-  
red before the Michigan State Agricultural  
society, at the State Fair in Detroit last fall, by  
Hon. E. H. Lothrop, of Prairie Ronde, where  
has been practically introduced.—Ed.

It would in this place give me great pleasure  
notice at some length the many improvements

that have, within a few years, been made in agri-  
cultural implements. Our farmers are little aware  
how much they are indebted to the inventive gen-  
ius of the age, in furnishing them with new and  
improved implements, which divest the pursuit  
of agriculture of half of its toil and hardship, and  
render it a pleasant and agreeable pursuit, instead,  
as heretofore, a forbidding one. But my time  
will only permit me briefly to notice two:

The first is the "gang plow," invented by Mr.  
N. Baker of St. Joseph county, which you have  
seen in operation here to-day. I have been fa-  
miliar with its operation for some time past, and  
can cheerfully recommend its use to the farmers  
of our State. By the use of this plow, and the  
addition of one span of horses, you can perform  
twice the amount of labor in one day, equally well,  
that you can now with the common plow. And  
I ask, who would not delight to become a plow-  
man, when, instead of drudging all day, foot-sore  
and tired, between the handles of his plow, he is  
furnished with a good seat, and, "whip in hand,"  
can drive his team with all the comfort and digni-  
ty of one seated in his own coach? May it not  
well be styled the poetry of agriculture?"

For the Michigan Farmer.

## HARVESTING MACHINES.

Friend Farmer:

My object in writing to you at  
this time, is to enquire if any of your subscribers  
are using a harvesting machine? The extreme  
scarcity of harvest hands, and the high price we  
have to pay, make me anxious, if possible, to dis-  
cover some easier and better way. Will you de-  
voted a little attention to this matter, and give us  
the information through your paper, and oblige

Your friend \*

J. G. MLOTT.

\* Friend M. will find all the information we  
are possessed of in relation to the matter in ques-  
tion, in our "Notes by the Way," in the pres-  
ent number of the Farmer.—Ed.

## TO MAKE COWS MILK EASY.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Mr. Editor:

I have seen several articles on  
milking cows, but I have tried a plan differing  
from any I have seen or heard of: Last summer  
I had a cow that milked very hard; and when I  
first started the milk I would rub my finger on  
the end of the teat, which moistened the outside  
of the opening, so that I could press the milk  
from the teat much faster and easier than I could  
without. The result is, that she now milks as easy  
as I could wish to have a cow.

It will cost nothing to try it on some of your  
hard-milking cows. Be sure to milk your cows  
clean, and you will get the more milk. A great  
many hard things are easily done when we know  
how to do them right.

H. H. R.

W— B—, Pontiac, Ap. 1st, 1850.

## NEW VARIETY OF WHEAT.

We have received a sample of a new variety of wheat, together with a description of it, from Wm. Dougherty, Esq., of Berrien Springs, Berrien Co. As the description he gave has been mislaid by the printer, we will state what we recollect of it, and hope Mr. D. will furnish another account of it for our next No. The sample he sent, is of a very large and beautiful berry. We are not positive about the name, but think it was "Tartarian," with some adjunct to it. He commenced with, we think, a half ounce of seed, sent him from the Patent Office, 5 years ago, and this year, he with his neighbors who had procured seed from him, had harvested about 3000 bushels of it. He himself has a thousand bushels of it, for seed ONLY. We are not positive about the price, it is \$1 50 or \$2 00 per bushel. He describes it as being very hardy, prolific, and hard to shell, so that there is no waste in harvesting, and says it makes very superior bread, light, soft, &c.

We should think, from the description, that it must be a very superior variety, and we would advise all who can, to get, at least, enough of it to give it a trial.

**The Crops, Markets, &c.**—In our recent tour, we passed thro' the counties of Wayne, Washtenaw, Jackson, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Cass, Berrien, and St. Josephs, in this State, and several counties in northern Indiana, embracing a distance of about five hundred miles; and we have also, thro' our correspondents, received accounts of the crops from nearly every county in the State, and we are satisfied we have rarely, if ever, experienced a year of greater abundance. The avails of the wool clip, with the increase in price, in yield of fleece, and in the number of sheep, will be double that of any previous year. The wheat crop, the corn crop, the oat crop, and the fruit crop, are all good.

The price of wheat and flour are not yet fixed. We think it will be lower than it was last year, but not as low as it has been previous years.

## DORKING FOWLS.

THE subscriber has for sale several hundred very superior Dorking Chickens, principally hatched in March and April, and now of a good size for disposal. His stock is warranted pure, being of his own importation, subsequently crossed by fowls procured from L. F. Allen, Esq., of Black Rock, to prevent deterioration from breeding in and in.

After trying almost all the most famous breeds of fowls, including Malay, (now so much over praised under several names,) Poland Top knots, Game, &c. &c., he has come to the conclusion that taking all their valuable qualities into consideration, such as size, quality of flesh, hardness, number and size of eggs, and their quiet disposition, they are decidedly the best and most profitable of any breed. They make excellent mothers, as an instance of which, 30 hens set, have raised upwards of 300 chickens this spring, and the greater part of the hens have commenced laying again.

The price per pair will be from two dollars to two dollars and a half, according to quality, including box for holding, and will be delivered duty free in Detroit, or forwarded from there by express or otherwise as required. Orders with remittances, should be addressed to the subscriber at Detroit Post Office, and will be promptly attended to.

JAMES DOUGALL  
Rosebank, near Ambersburg, C. W.

August, 1850. 2.

## CASH FOR BARLEY.

THE subscribers are in immediate want of Barley, and for a short time, will pay the highest price they have ever paid for Barley delivered so early after harvest.

HAWLEY & CO.

Detroit, August 1, 1850.

B. B. Chapin, J. R. Walker, I. P. Jackson, and A. A. Copeland, are our authorized traveling agents for the Michigan Farmer.

## DETROIT PRICE CURRENT.

Herd's Grass, bu	200	Salt,	\$1 11 1/2
Flax, bu	125	Butter,	12
Lime, bbl	70	Eggs, doz	11
Flour, bbl	\$4 50	Hides, lb	2a 1/2
Corn, bu	50	Wheat, bu	80
Oats,	37	Hams, lb	6
Rye,	37	Onions, bu	50a 1/2
Barley,	62	Cranberries,	2 00
Hogs, 100 lbs	3 00	Buckwheat, 100 lbs	1 75
Apples, bu	1 00	Indian Meal,	1 12 1/2
Potatoes,	50	Beef,	5 00
Hay, ton	8 00	Lard, lb retail	7
Wool, lb	18a 1/2	Honey,	10
Peas, bu	100	Apples, dried	2 00
Beans,	100	Peaches, do	2 50
Beef, bu	6a 7 00	Clover Seed, bu	5 00
Pork,	8a 11 00	Pine Lumber, clear	\$20 tho.
White Fish,	6a 5 50	Second clear	15 "
Trout,	3 50a 6 50	Bill Lumber	11 "
Cod Fish, lb	5a 5 1/2	Flooring	12 "
Cheese,	6	Common	10 "
Wood, cord	2a 2 25	Lath	2 "

## INDEX TO THIS NUMBER.

Explanation—Berrien co. in the field—Notes by the	PAGE
Way—The Prairies,	225
Harvesting Machines—Traveling threshing and cleaning Machines—A veteran of 1812,	226
Feeding grain to sheep—Curing hay,	227
Notes by the Way No. 69.	228
Beardsley's Prairie—Maine of land—Farm of Hon. Geo. Redfield—Colony of Blacks—Ekhart Ia.—Form of Heman Redfield, Jr.	229
A tale of sorrow—Constantine—Our State Fair, Our Notes by the Way—Samples of Wool,	230
Letter from Dr. Comstock—Letter from General Orr—Crops in Genesee co.,	231
Cottage—Light breaking, &c.	232
Wheat growing No. 4—Information asked, crops, &c.	233
Evils incident to our Educational system—About District Libraries,	234
Extract of an argument, &c.	235
"Home, sweet home,"—Letter from a young man,	236
Response from Mary,	237
Preserving butter—To farmers' daughters,	238
The land of Peppermint, &c.—Three Rivers,	239
Turning under clover &c.—Bathing, its advantages—Dr. Freeman's poultry yard—Mr. Edgar's Devon stock,	240
Mr. Milham's farm.	241
Chemical change in the soil—Sheep, the west vs. the east—Different varieties of wheat; Difference in climate—Drilling in wheat; Effect of packing the surface,	242
Increased yield of wool; Notices of the press; Michigan vs. Ohio; Another pest of the farmer.	243
Important experiment with wheat and corn; effect of plaster,	244
Cheering letter: A suggestion; Response on stitching,	245
Murdering apple trees; Grafting the Plum; Chestnut trees in muck—The apple tree borer,	246
Fruit kneder; To make fruit trees bear; Mr. Prouty's nursery; Orchard of Aaron Eames; Manuring with charcoal;	247
Maple grove; A contrivance, &c.	248
Plant trees,	249
On poultry,	250
Letter from Ohio; crops on the Maumee; Abort horses,	251
The gang plow; Information wanted; Once plowing for wheat; Harvesting machines; To make cows milk easy,	252
The crops, markets, etc.	253

## CHARLES PIQUETTE,



MANUFACTURER OF

SUPERIOR DIAMOND POINTED

GOLD PENS.

DAMAGED PENS RE-POINTED.

Also, damaged Watches and Jewelry, repaired by a superior workman, and the work warranted.  
Detroit, August 1, 1850

**WHEELER, MELICK, & CO.,**

PATENTEES AND MANUFACTURERS OF

**Wheeler's Patent Improved Railway Chain Horse Powers.****OVERSHOT THRESHERS,**

With Vibrating Separators; and of other Agricultural Machines. The undersigned having secured of WHEELER, MELICK & CO., an agency for the sale of their celebrated Machines, are prepared to furnish them at manufacturers' prices.

THE TWO HORSE MACHINE is extensively used, not only by Farmers, but also by persons who make Threshing a business for the season. It is so compact and portable, that the whole Machine is easily loaded on a common two horse wagon; or when to be moved often from place to place, is mounted on wheels, so that two men can get it in order for threshing in a few minutes, and remount it for moving with the same ease. With from 3 to 5 hands it will thresh from 125 to 200 bushels of wheat, or twice the quantity of oats, per day.

THE ONE HORSE MACHINE, attended by two or three men will thresh from 60 to 100 bushels of wheat per day. It may be worked on a small sized barn floor without inconvenience. This Machine has been most used in the Eastern States, where threshing is chiefly done in barns, and in the winter season; but it is also very highly commended by Farmers in the Western States who have used it.

THE ONE HORSE POWER is adapted to various other purposes; such as Driving Circular and Vertical Saws, Feed Cutters, Corn Shellers, Boring Machines, Grind Stones, Pumps, &c.

These Horse Powers, (both One and Two Horse,) are strong and durable, with the gearing simply arranged, and not liable to get out of order, and run extremely light. With a slight elevation, the weight alone of the Horses affords sufficient power to thresh as before stated, or to drive the other Machines before mentioned.

THE OVERSHOT THRESHER is worked more conveniently and with less power than the Under-shot or Common Thresher, and not scatter grain or drive dust towards the workmen.

THE VIBRATING SEPARATOR effectually divides the Grain from the Straw, leaving the former in the best order for clearing; and when expedition or convenience makes it desirable, a Fanning Mill may be attached to, and driven by the same Horse Power.

CIRCULAR SAW MILL.—This Mill is driven by a One Horse Power, and attended by two men; saws from 10 to 15 cords of wood twice in two, per day.

STALK AND STRAW CUTTER.—This is a most excellent Machine, and is much used. It cuts fine and extremely fast. Stalks are cut by it three-eighths of an inch long, and at the rate of from 300 to 500 sheaves per day, with a One Horse Power.

The foregoing is a brief and fair statement of the qualities and character of our Machines. Probably a larger number of our Powers and Threshers are made and sold than of any other kind. Two of our firm have had 17 years' experience in manufacturing Threshing Machines of various kinds, and are the INVENTORS AND PATENTEES of these Horse Powers. A few were made in 1831 and 1832, which are still good and in use. Since then the demand for them has steadily increased, and we are now prepared to complete 1000 Machines this season. One of our Agents alone, (Mr. H. L. EMERY, of Albany,) sold nearly 200 Machines for us during the last year. Hundreds of Letters, Recommendations, and Notices in Agricultural Papers, Premiums at State and County Fairs, and other Testimonials can be shown to confirm our advertising statements; but as all Machines made and sold by us or our agents, are

**WARRANTED**

not only to perform as stated, but to give satisfaction to the Purchaser.

We deem it unnecessary to give them here. For more detailed information, or for the purpose of ordering Machines, address the subscribers at Detroit.

**F. F. PARKER & BRO.****PLEASE TO READ THIS!**

**SEARS' PICTORIAL WORKS FOR 1849.**  
A Great Chance for Book Agents to clear from  
\$500 to \$1000 a year!

**BOOKS OF UNIVERSAL UTILITY.**

**SEARS' New and Popular Pictorial Works**—the most splendidly illustrated volumes for families ever issued on the American continent, containing more than FOUR THOUSAND ENGRAVINGS, designed and executed by the most eminent artists of England and America.

The extraordinary popularity of the above volumes in every section of the Union, renders an agency desirable in each one of our principal towns and villages.

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**Pictorial Description of the United States!**

Containing an account of the Topography, Settlement, History, Revolutionary and other interesting Events, Statistics, Progress, in Agriculture, Manufactures, and Population, &c., of each State of the Union, illustrated with

**Two Hundred Engravings**

of the principal Cities, Places, Buildings, Scenery, Curiosities, Seals of the States, &c. Complete in one octavo volume of 600 pages, elegantly bound in gilt, pictorial muslin. Retail price \$2 0.

The Pictorial Family Annual, 400 pages octavo, and illustrated with 212 Engravings; designed as a valuable and cheap present for parents and teachers to place in the hands of young people, in attractive bindings.

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Agents Wanted, in every town and county throughout the Union, to sell "Sears' New and Popular Pictorial Works;" universally acknowledged to be the best and cheapest ever published, as they certainly are the most saleable. Any active agent may clear \$500 or \$1000 a year. A cash capital of at least \$35 to \$50 will be necessary. Full particulars of the principles and profits of the agency will be given on application either personally or by letter. The postage must be paid in all cases. Please address

**ROBERT SEARS, Publisher,**

128, Nassau Street, New York.

**To Publishers of Newspapers throughout the United States.**

\* \* Newspapers copying this advertisement entire, displayed as above, without any alteration or abridgment, including this notice, and giving it two insertions, shall receive a copy of any one of our \$2 50 or 3 00 works, subject to their order, by sending direct to the publisher.

\* \* No letter will be taken from the office unless; sent paid

**WINTER SEASON—1849-50.****CLOTHING FOR THE MILLION!****EAGLE & ELLIOTT,**

HAVING completed their fall purchase, are now prepared to offer for sale an extensive and complete assortment, comprising 50,000 garments of every grade, style, quality and size, to be had in the market. Among which may be found the most fashionable as well as the most substantial. Manufactured in Philadelphia, mechanically cut, and unsurpassed in neatness of pattern and design, purchased particularly for this market, and for the winter season of 1849-50.

Merchants in the interior, and adjacent parts of Canada, are invited to call at No. 61, Woodward Avenue, and examine the extensive stock of the subscribers. Having purchased their entire stock this season, in the Philadelphia market, they can offer a great variety of styles and sizes, and sell their goods to wholesale purchasers at New York wholesale prices; or at retail in quantities to suit purchasers, at their usual low and satisfactory prices.

**EAGLE & ELLIOTT.**

No. 61, Woodward Avenue, Larned Block, nearly opposite the Presbyterian Church, Detroit.



## CLOTHING EMPORIUM.



AND  
Gentlemen's Furnishing Establishment,  
Corner of Jefferson and Woodward Avenues, Detroit.  
**A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF ARTICLES**, usually kept in a Clothing Establishment, constantly on hand and for sale at the lowest possible rates.  
Cloths, Cassimeres, Vestings, &c., on hand and made up to order, in the most fashionable and durable style.

HALLOCK &amp; RAYMOND.



em, in the case of both ladies and gentlemen, particularly in the case of weak backs and spinal deformities, so common to children, ladies, and sedentary gentlemen in this climate.

The principle on which these affections are relieved by the brace is:

1st. By firmly supporting the loins or weak part of the back, pushing it forward under the shoulder, and thereby balancing the latter upon the body's axis.

2d. By lifting, but not compressing the sunken abdomen; also removing a dragging from the pelvis above, thereby expanding the waist and chest and strengthening the whole body by the consequent upward and outward bracing of the supported organs, an action and principle entirely different from that of corsets and shoulder braces, removing all desire for, or propriety in their use.

The medical profession are invited to call, A lady in attendance upon ladies. Rooms open from 9 to 12 A. M., and from 2 to 8 P. M. Patients unable to go out will be visited at their dwellings, whenever the request is made.

Physicians can be supplied with the braces at a liberal discount at wholesale.

Also, the braces can be obtained of Dr. Thomas B. Clark, on Jefferson Avenue.

**T. H. ARMSTRONG,**

Manufacturer of and Dealer in  
SUPERIOR HATS AND CAPS,

No. 56, Woodward Avenue.

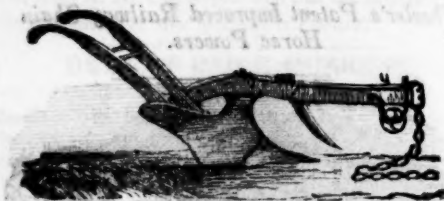
(Between the Presbyterian Church, and Jefferson Avenue,  
Sign of Big Hat, Detroit.)

ALSO, Dealer in Furs, Robes, Muffs, Umbrellas, Canes, Gloves, Scarfs, Cravats, Suspenders, Buckskin Shoes, &c., very cheap for cash.

Would respectfully solicit the patronage of Farmers and others coming in the city, pledging himself to sell as cheap as any other establishment east of New York.

His stock of Hats and Caps are of his own manufacture and warranted the best.

Orders for any style of Hat or Cap promptly attended to



## STOVES AND

**Agricultural Implements.**

THE subscribers offer for sale, on reasonable terms, a general assortment of Stoves, Tin, Copper, Sheet Iron, and Hollow wares, of every description.

—ALSO—

an assortment of agricultural implements, including Peckham, Eagle, Wisconsin and Michigan Plows, Cultivators, Cradles, Scythes, Hoes, Rakes, Shovels, Scrapers, Forks, Churns (all others) Wash Boards, &c., &c.

D. O. &amp; W. PENFIELD

**J. G. DARBY,**

ENGRAVER.

No. 151, Corner Jefferson Avenue and Bates Street,  
Detroit, (Third Story.)

MAPS, Visiting and Business Cards, Portraits,  
Bills of Exchange, Wood Cuts, &c.

—ALSO—

Door Plates, Silver Ware, &c., elegantly engraved.  
Detroit, January 1st, 1850.

## NEW WHOLESALE BOOK-STORE!

THE undersigned, having located themselves permanently in the City of Detroit, beg leave to call the attention of the people of this State, to their No., being 180, Jefferson Avenue, where it is to be found a general assortment of Books, pertaining to Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., &c., and where subscriptions are received for all "Agricultural Papers" published in this country.

—ALSO—

a complete assortment of School, Classical, Medical, Law and Miscellaneous books, together with a large assortment of stationery and Paper Hangings, and Borders to match.

For sale Wholesale and Retail, by

F. P. MARKHAM &amp; BRO.

No. 180, Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.

Detroit, Jan'y 1st, 1850.

SMITH'S Patent Ventilating Smut Machine—  
Also, Mott's Agricultural Furnace, for sale by

D. O. &amp; W. S. PENFIELD.

Detroit, Jan'y 1850.

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And the Widows, Fathers, Mothers, Brothers,  
and Sisters, of those who have died in the  
Army of the United States!

All who enlisted for 5 years, or during the war of 1812, before 23d Dec. 1811, and never received the same, are entitled to 150 acres of land; all enlisted after that time, for like period, to 300 acres of land. All who served in Mexico, including volunteers, entitled to 3 months' extra pay and 100 acres of land. The land and money will be procured for those entitled, by writing to G. F. LEWIS, Banker, &c., Detroit, Michigan. Communications from any part of the United States promptly attended to. Write particularly the name of the Post Office, County, and State to which the answer is to be sent.

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